

THE TIMES



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University of

Orangemen refuse to stand down

Drumcree siege goes on despite arson murder of three brothers

BY MARTIN FLETCHER AND AUDREY MAGEE

PORTADOWN'S Orangemen defied immense pressure and vowed to continue their Drumcree stand-off last night after eight days of violence culminated in the horrific murders of three young brothers early yesterday.

They took the unanimous decision despite impassioned appeals from across the political and religious spectrum and clear splits in the Orange Order's leadership over a protest that was out of control.

Harold Gracy, district master of the Portadown Orange Lodge, asked if the situation would continue indefinitely, replied: "It will continue indefinitely, yes."

David Trimble, Northern Ireland's First Minister and leading Unionist, and the Rev William Bingham, the Order's influential Co Armagh chaplain, both reversed their previous support, saying a march down a road was not worth such an appalling price.

Moreover the murders caused such deep shock and revulsion that wider Unionist and loyalist support for the stand-off appeared to be evaporating. The big test will come today when tens of thousands of Orangemen had been expected to descend on Drumcree in a demonstration of support.

By mid-evening there were only hundreds of supporters at Drumcree, compared to thousands on previous nights. Orangemen abandoned the "freedom camp" they had set up at Hillsborough Castle. Nationalist residents of Bel-



The boys who died in the arson attack: (from left) Jason, 7, Mark, 9, and Richard Quinn, 11. Behind them is their elder brother, Lee, who was staying with their grandparents

fast's Lower Ormeau Road announced that as a mark of respect they would make no attempt to block a highly-contentious Orange Order parade past their homes. Nationalist residents in Keady, Co Armagh, made a similar announcement.

The murders came just hours after the failure of last-ditch "proximity talks" between the Orangemen and leaders of the Garvaghy Road's nationalist residents.

At 4.30am arsonists threw incendiary devices into the home of a Roman Catholic woman living on a loyalist estate in Ballymonee, Co Antrim. Chrissie Quinn and her Protestant partner escaped but the three brothers Richard, 11, Mark, 9, and Jason, 7, were trapped. Their elder brother Lee was staying with grandparents.

Their mother, Chrissie Quinn, said last night: "I was woken by the sound of the children screaming and ran to their bedroom. But I couldn't find my way through the smoke and flames. The heat was just so bad that we had to jump out through a window. There was nothing we could do to get to them."

"On Saturday night my boys were at the loyalist 12th bonfire. They had a great time." She told relatives: "If this was done because of religion, the whole world has gone mad. I know that things were bad but I never thought that anyone could sink as low."

A White House spokesman said: "The President was deeply saddened by the deaths of three innocent children in a sectarian attack."

Seamus Mallon, Northern Ireland's Deputy First Minister and leading nationalist, Mr Trimble deplored an "appalling act of barbarity" that "could and should have been prevented" and appealed to the Drumcree Orangemen to "immediately end their protest and return to their homes".

Mr Trimble, Portadown's MP and an Orangeman himself, said the only way Orangemen could dissociate themselves from the murders and the murderers was to "come down off that hill".

From his pulpit in Pomeroy, Co Tyrone, Mr Bingham said he wept when he heard of the murders. He begged the protesters to "back off", saying that "after last night's attack a 15-minute walk down Garvaghy Road by the Orange Order would be a very hollow victory because it would be in the shadow of the coffins of three little boys". Mr Bingham was one of the representatives at the proximity talks.

Archbishop Robin Eames, Primate of the Protestant Church of Ireland, implored the Orangemen: "In God's name pull back. We are on the verge of disaster." Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ire-

land Secretary, begged marchers and protesters to stay at home.

But David Jones, spokesman for the Portadown Orangemen, said that the stand-off would continue. He added: "We are the only ones who parade on the Garvaghy Road, we are the only ones who will make that decision and we are the only ones who will make that walk."

Brendan McKenna, the Garvaghy Road residents' spokesman, said the proximity talks should be reconvened. One senior Orange Order source said the leadership was "in total disarray". A senior Ulster Unionist Party source said the Order, Northern Ireland's largest Protestant organisation, was at "its most serious crisis point" and should cancel all parades.

Ken Bates, chairman of Chelsea Football Club offered a £100,000 reward to find the brothers' killers. "I want the bastards who did this found, caught, convicted and put behind bars," he said.

The Army yesterday defused a 1,400lb bomb found in a trailer abandoned on a country road in County Armagh.

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Retirement job for detectives

Three former Scotland Yard detectives have come out of retirement to investigate the suspected murder of a colleague who disappeared last year during a gambling trip to Las Vegas. Paul Harnon, 44, vanished while he was carrying a large bundle of banknotes. Page 7

Nuclear alert

President Yeltsin activated his "nuclear briefcase" for a retaliatory attack in 1995 when Russian early warning stations picked up what they thought was an approaching American missile. Page 10

France erupts in jubilation as Brazil are beaten 3-0

BY JOHN GODDBODY AND BEN MACINTYRE

FRANCE upset Brazil, the holders and firm favourites, 3-0 in Paris last night to win the 16th World Cup with a multi-ethnic team which has consolidated the new identity of the French nation.

To the amazement of 1.7 billion television viewers around the globe and 80,000 spectators, the French defeated the Brazilians, led by Ronaldo, the most expensive player in football history, to take the title for the first time.

France were on top throughout the first half but, after the interval, Brazil tried desperately to retain the title. France played much of the second half with ten men after Marcel Desailly was sent off.

Both first-half goals were scored with headers from corners by Zinedine Zidane who now plays for Juventus in Turin. Emmanuel Petit, who won the double with Arsenal, scored the third in the last minute.

The moment the final whistle blew, the country began a parade of celebration, with cars honking their horns and Tricolours streaming out of their windows, converging on city centres. In Paris, the Champs Elysees and the Left Bank became gridlocked with vehicles as a mass party began.

Inside the stadium, Jacques Chirac, the French president, waved a French shirt in his delight as the team made up of blacks, whites and players of north African origin won the 32-nation tournament, which was invented by a Frenchman, Jules Rimet, in 1930.

France's determination to win was demonstrated before the kick-off last night. As the Marseille was sung, the players wrapped their arms round each other in a demonstration of their collective spirit. The French were roared on by supporters, waving banners emblazoned with the



"Let me introduce myself - I'm Gillian, your wife"

culture, placing *haute couture* alongside football. However, the defeat was received as a national tragedy in Brazil, who had previously won the trophy a record four times.

It was the first time that Brazil had lost the trophy at the final stage of the tournament since they were beaten 2-1 by Uruguay in Rio de Janeiro in 1950, a result which sparked several suicides and murders in subsequent days.

Organisers praised, page 4
Leading article, page 21
Match reports, pages 25-29

Japanese Premier to resign

FROM ROBERT WHYMAN IN TOKYO

THE world's second largest economy heads into a new period of instability after Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party suffered humiliation in yesterday's Upper House election.

Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, is expected to announce his resignation today. The election was widely regarded as a test of confidence in his handling of Japan's economic woes, and early this morning the Prime Minister acknowledged that he had failed the test.

Some analysts are concerned that whoever takes over from Mr Hashimoto will head an ineffectual Government that could deepen Japan's economic instability and unleash a more serious Asian crisis.

Leader blamed, page 12
Market turmoil, page 48

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Start-stop summer hits stop-start Silverstone

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

THE absent British summer resulted in the British Grand Prix having to be effectively restarted yesterday helping Michael Schumacher to skid to victory in a race he had been losing at Silverstone.

While some might say the torrential rain brought some much-needed drama to the race, Mika Hakkinen would disagree. He had been leading by 38 seconds until the 44th lap when the conditions were so appalling that the drivers, barely able to see where they were going, were forced to trundle around for several laps behind the safety car. Schumacher caught up and when the race began again Hakkinen spun off and the German won his first British Grand Prix.

Hakkinen's McLaren team lodged a complaint because Schumacher overtook while the safety car was out for which he incurred only a 10-second penalty. Nine of the 22 starters finished the race, with Britain's David Coulthard among the casualties, spinning off while in second place.

After wintry weather had forced the Benson and Hedges Cup into a second day at Lord's, the rain eventually relented in mid-afternoon and a handful of spectators watched Essex skittle out Leicestershire out for a meagre 76 runs.

The unseasonal weather meant that the noses of those brave enough to promenade at coastal resorts were red from cold rather than sunburn. Visitors to the Hampton Court Flower Show had to wade through mud.

The Tooting Bec Lido in south London, which attracts 3,000 on sunny days, has not had more than 200 visitors on any day this year. Dozens of fans at the T in the Park rock festival at Balado, Kinross, had to be treated for the effects of cold.

The bad news, with the Open golf championship teeing off at Royal Birkdale on Thursday, is that the weathermen have no evidence that summer is on its way. The Meteorological Office said that while there would be a few brighter spells today, the outlook was for more rain, wind and cold. Some areas could expect gales and floods.

The record books provide little solace. In July 1980, when a similar deep Atlantic depression crossed the country following an unusually dank June, the cold and wet continued through the following month.

Forecast, page 24
Grand Prix, 30, 31; cricket, 35

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Balaclava hijacks the bowler hat

IN BRIEF Alsation mauls baby girl to death

An 11-week-old girl was savaged to death yesterday by the family's Alsation dog as she lay asleep in her cot.
Carly Jones's father, Marshall Jones, was sleeping on a sofa close to his daughter while his wife, Ann, slept upstairs. A police spokesman said Mr Jones, 38, woke to find his daughter severely injured by the dog. She was taken to hospital by ambulance, but was dead on arrival.
Friends said the couple, from Caerphilly, South Wales, were married ten years ago and had tried for years to start a family. They have agreed to have the five-year-old dog put down.

Lockerbie fire

A teenage girl has been charged in connection with a fire that destroyed ten classrooms and caused up to £2 million damage at Lockerbie primary school, Dumfries and Galloway. The school was unscathed when Pan Am flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie in December 1988, killing 270.

Soldiers held

Four soldiers were being questioned by military police about the alleged rape of the daughter of a fellow soldier. The four, all serving with the 1st Battalion of the Irish Guards, were detained after the woman, 27, was allegedly raped outside a disco in Bergehohe in northern Germany.

Belfast arrests

Four men have been arrested in connection with the killing of an 18-year-old man who was beaten to death in Belfast on Saturday night. David Phillips was found slumped in a loyalist estate shortly after 4am. Police said they had ruled out a sectarian motive for the killing.

Murder charge

A man aged 22 has been charged with murdering the stabber Victoria Bell, 20, who was found dead at her home in Newmarket on Friday night after returning from Lingfield races. Andrew Cable, a roofing contractor, is to appear before magistrates today at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

Sex attack hunt

Police are hunting three men who sexually assaulted a Swedish exchange student in Brighton on Friday night. The girl, 16, who is staying with an English family, had visited the Palace Pier with other foreign students and was making her way to a bus and taxi rank when she was attacked.

Diana bills

The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund said it had made allowances for bills of up to £3 million from lawyers working for her estate. However, Amanda Clow, a fund spokeswoman, said it was extremely unlikely that amount would actually be spent.

The Drumcree protesters have been naive, write Martin Fletcher and Audrey Magee

A WEEK ago yesterday, the thousands of Orangemen who could not pack inside Drumcree's pretty stone church stood outside in the hot sun, proudly wearing their orange sashes and bowler hats, singing *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven* and *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* as the hymns were relayed by loudspeakers.

Yesterday's morning service offered a dramatically different picture. The congregation had shrunk to barely 300. There was scarcely an Orange sash in sight, either in the church or the rain-soaked fields around it. From the pulpit, John Pickering, the rector, told his congregation: "I said last Sunday that we had come to an indescribably bad situation in Portadown, but I never thought it was going to deteriorate to become as awful as it has become."

Early yesterday evening there were only a few hundred protesters at Drumcree, compared with thousands on previous nights. The original protesters may or may not have been misguided, but there was something faintly noble about their stand. They were for the most part middle-aged or elderly, many former servicemen imbued with a deep sense of duty and tradition, who genuinely believed they were fighting for the freedoms for which their forefathers died on the Somme.

They were also hopelessly naive. By taking the stand they took, they unleashed forces they could never hope to control. Their principled protest was swiftly and predictably hijacked by loyalist thugs who prefer the balaclava to the bowler hat and would be hard pressed to distinguish between the Battle of the Somme and the Battle of the Boyne. Ronnie Flanagan, the RUC Chief Constable, branded them "malevolent, evil, sinister criminals".

The transformation has been patently obvious in the fields around the church. There are still a few of the old school camped in tents on the upper slopes. Down at the front line, where a deep moat and wall after wall of coiled barbed wire prevent the protesters reaching the Garvaghy Road, the hooligans have been gathering in ever greater numbers as soon as darkness falls. They come fortified with cheap cider and six-packs of lager, and with Ulster flags tied around the lower halves of their faces. They begin by hurling foul-mouthed insults at the distant security forces.



Orangemen looking over the defences at Drumcree yesterday. Their numbers were a fraction of the thousands who turned out a week earlier

Words were soon replaced by missiles — bottles, stones and fireworks fired horizontally — each cheered on its way.

The mob has felled trees to cross the moat and used vehicles with ropes and grappling hooks to drag away the nearest of the barbed-wire walls. They have set fires under the containers that block the lane leading to the Garvaghy Road. They have used catapults to fire ball-bearings, lured the riot police close enough to injure them with nailbombs and, in the small hours of Saturday morning, they opened fire with guns.

"These people are now using the crowds — children — to cut the wire — young people," Assistant Chief Constable Tom Craig of the RUC said. "They are using the cover of the crowds to come forward on our lines. They are using makeshift barricades and effectively trying to get within range where they can kill police officers."

The same loyalist mobs are running riot across Northern Ireland every night — building barricades, hijacking cars and fighting running battles with the security forces in an orgy of wanton destruction. Belfast and many other places are ghost towns after dark, their law-abiding citizens having fled to their homes or left the Province altogether. By early yesterday, the mobs had

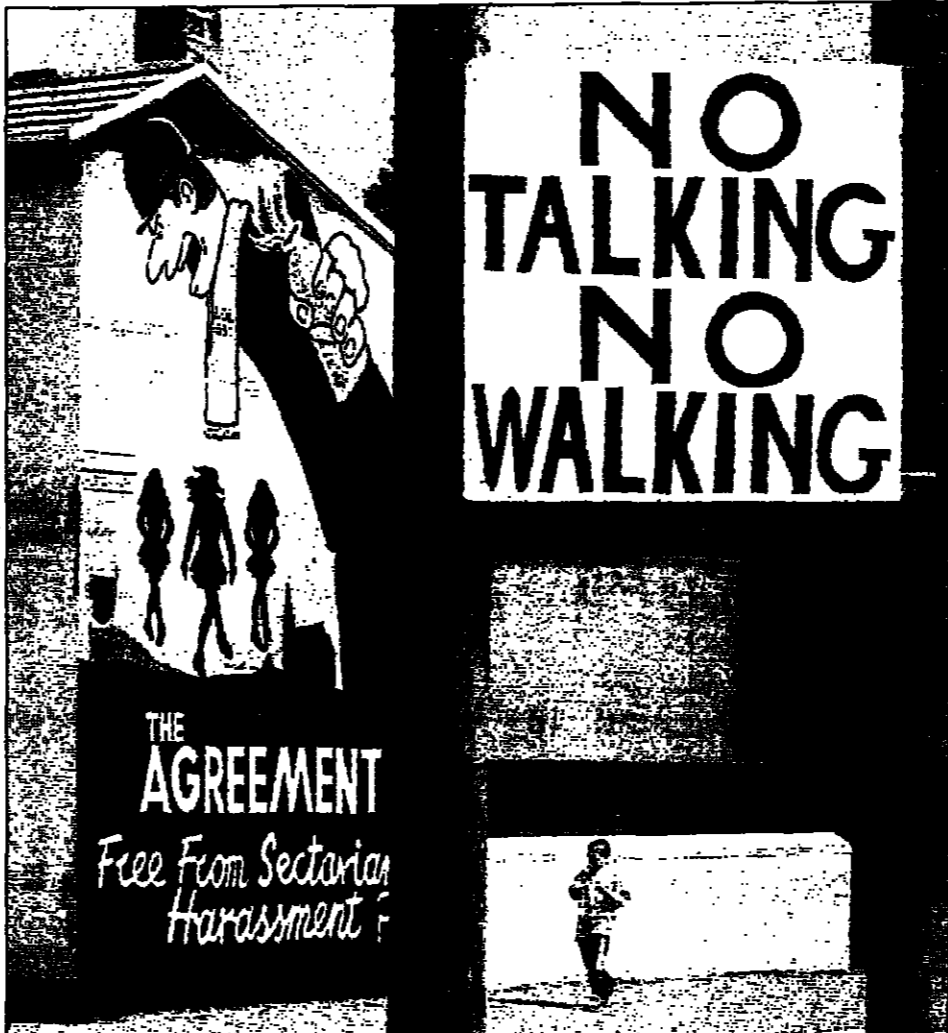
mounted 600 attacks on the security forces, 63 using guns or bombs. They have also been using the Drumcree stand-off as a pretext for a programme of ethnic cleansing that reached its tragic climax with yesterday's immolation of three boys in Ballymoney.

It is hard to imagine the culprits bore any resemblance to the ideal Orangeman as described in one of the Orange Order's own texts: "He should cultivate truth and justice, brotherly kindness and charity, devotion and piety, concord and unity and obedience to the laws; his deportment should be gentle and compassionate." Seldom has an institution that boasts of being "fundamentally a Christian organisation" given rise to such evil.

A lawyer and an academic at Queen's University, Belfast, have been remanded in custody accused of causing criminal damage with intent to endanger life. Richard Monteith, a solicitor from Portadown, and Philip Black, a member of the university's computer sciences department, were among ten men detained by police near Lurgan early on Friday.

They are accused of obstructing the police, obstructing a public highway and causing criminal damage with intent to endanger life. They were all remanded in custody to the Maze until July 28.

Leading article, page 21



A mural in the Garvaghy Road, from which marching Orangemen have been barred

Parents' leader tells Straw to quit as school governor

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A SCHOOL faces demolition after its governors, whose chairman is Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, approved a project that involves housing as well as a new school being built on the site with the help of private finance.

The chairman of the parents' association, which voted last week by 155 to 6 against the scheme at Pimlico comprehensive, Central London, last night demanded Mr Straw's resignation as parent governor and chair of the governing body. The association says that, last November, when Mr Straw was seeking re-election as

governor, he promised not to back the scheme unless it was supported by parents.

Governors decided on Saturday by ten votes to eight in favour of the school being knocked down and another being built on three-quarters of the present site, with the help of private developers. The remainder of the site will be devoted to housing.

Michael Ball, chairman of the parents' association, said: "Parents will be extremely angry because they have expressed their total opposition to this. They don't believe the school will survive if it goes ahead."

Classes are planned to continue during building work, which could

take up to five years, but parents fear it could disrupt study. They will decide their next move this week.

Mr Ball said that auditors were being consulted today about whether the scheme, which is subsidised by the Department for Education and Westminster council, amounted to a misuse of public money.

Anthony Jones, the National Union of Teachers representative at Pimlico, said that 60 from a staff of about 75 had signed a letter to the governors protesting about the project. He said: "We are contemplating a vote of no-confidence in the governors."

Governors and Westminster council began to consider private finance in 1995 when they faced raising up to £7.5 million to repair the school, considered one of the most architecturally interesting to be built in the 1960s.

Mr Straw said Westminster education authority had consulted pupils, parents, staff and the community extensively on the issue. The deteriorating state of the school had made some action essential and the phased rebuilding recommended by the governors on Saturday had commanded more support than refurbishment.

Mr Straw said he had made it clear at the hustings that he would not be bound by a vote at a mass meeting but he had missed only one parents'

meeting on the project because of a Commons debate.

The governors would be less disruptive than a refurbishment plan that might in any case not have attracted the necessary funding. If the council's Private Finance Initiative Committee supports the scheme tomorrow, work will begin on a new school and more than 150 flats next summer.

Mr Straw has chaired the governors for four years, during which the head teacher was replaced and examination results have improved. Pimlico, which has a reputation for excellence in music in particular, attracts many pupils from out of the borough.

Police free five held over plan to bomb London

BY RICHARD FORD AND AUDREY MAGEE

FIVE of the ten people arrested in connection with a planned Irish republican bomb attack in London were released yesterday.

A man of 35, held by Irish police after an arms find at Durdalk, Co Louth, and a woman of 21, arrested in west Dublin, were set free, as was a man of 23, from north Dublin, and another man, aged 31, from Co Wexford. A woman was released without charge by Scotland Yard.

A police spokesman in Dublin said that in the cases of three of those released, a file had been sent to the Irish Director of Public Prosecutions with a view to possible future charge. Four men and one woman were still being questioned by Scotland Yard detectives.

Primed firebombs were seized by armed anti-terrorist officers during the raid in London on Friday. A Scotland Yard spokesman said: "A total of six incendiary devices were recovered. We cannot comment on the nature of the devices. However, they were primed."

Under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, the five suspects still being held in London can be detained for another five days. The raid, which involved dozens of armed officers in three separate locations across London, came after a joint surveillance operation by Scotland Yard, the Irish police and the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Anti-terrorist chiefs in the Irish Republic are exploring claims that the bombing attempt was the result of a pact between senior members of the Irish National Liberation Army, the Continuity IRA and the "Real IRA".

The terror groups are feared to have agreed to pool their resources to launch a bombing campaign on the mainland, masterminded by a former IRA quartermaster-general who quit the mainstream group to set up the "Real IRA". Police believe that the five still detained in London are members of the "Real IRA", made up of republican dissidents and formed last year by former members of the IRA.

Police in the Irish Republic have been surprised to discover the paramilitaries recruiting in some of Ireland's leading universities. At least three of those arrested were from universities in Dublin and Belfast. Two of the people arrested in London went to University College Dublin while a third, also arrested in London, was studying at Queen's University, Belfast.

Only one of the ten arrested was known to gardai for his involvement in terrorism, suggesting that the new movement is intent on using men and women known by the police as "lilywhites".

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هكذا من الأصل

MONDAY JULY 13 1998
ler hat
Police free five held over plan to bomb London

The blackened stain of death among the red, white and blue

By MARTIN FLETCHER
CHIEF IRLAND
CORRESPONDENT

STREETS on the Carnary estate are festooned with Union Jacks, and kerbstones are painted red, white and blue. Yesterday outside the Quinn children's charred and blackened house, knots of neighbours stood in horror in the pouring rain.

Among them, a middle-aged woman was pale and terrified, for she knew she might just as easily have been the victim. She is a Roman Catholic who has lived on the estate for ten years. Last Saturday, she received a "greetings card" which bore just three words, printed in big black letters: "Get Out Now."

She was leaving last night. "I don't know where, I am just getting out."

Ballymonee, a small market town of about 8,500, predominantly Protestant, people in the north of County Antrim, is no stranger to the atrocities that have so hideously disfigured Northern Ireland for three decades. At the height of last year's marching season, a loyalist mob beat an off-duty policeman to death outside a town centre pub.

Mrs Quinn was one of a handful of Catholics living on the tough, uninviting Carnary estate on Ballymonee's eastern fringe. Two years ago, the paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force had ordered her husband to leave the estate. The family fled to England. Mrs Quinn, who is in her late twenties, subsequently repatriated from her husband and returned with her four children last October.

Neighbours said that her brother's house on the estate was attacked with a petrol bomb a few months ago. Her mother recently moved out and her former home was petrol-bombed late last Friday night. Mrs Quinn stayed on with her new partner, a Protestant named Raymond Craig, and the children Lee, Richard, Jason and Mark.

According to Shirley Patton, a cousin, the children went to the local state primary school, not the Catholic school, and were being "brought up as Protestants because of all the hassle - Catholics are always being hassled".

As the Drumree stand-off escalated last week, so did sectarian tensions on the Carnary estate. Its entrance is flanked by the charred remains of a crude barricade. Petrol bombs were thrown at police. Catholic families were threatened. Amid the

A VERY BLACK MORNING

"We are burning our children on the altar of our hatred."
Robert Coulter, Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Assembly

"The only way they can disassociate themselves now is to leave the hill at Drumree parish church and return home."
David Trimble, Northern Ireland First Minister

"I reject the inference that this is solely down to the Orange Order. This has just been a catalyst for other difficulties."
David Jones, Orange Order spokesman, claiming that there was no connection between Drumree protest and the murder of the children

"It is time to say that what is happening at Drumree is wrong. What is being done in the name of Protestantism is wrong."
Church of Ireland Archbishop Robin Eames

"A very black morning, quite the blackest I remember for some time."
Ronnie Flanagan, RUC Chief Constable

kerbstones and lamp-posts painted red, white and blue, and the place dozens of Union Jacks are flags bearing the Red Hand of Ulster, in a defiant declaration of its hardline loyalism.

On Saturday night, Jason Quinn went with a friend to one of the loyalist bonfires built to celebrate July 12 - the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne. They went on to the chip shop to buy sausages, chips and beans, and then to the community hall but it was closed.

Shortly before 4.30am, an incendiary device was thrown into the back living room of the cream, mid-terrace house. Mrs Quinn, Mr Craig and another woman, Christina Archibald, 18, who was staying the night, managed to escape. Mrs Quinn's eldest child, Lee, was away staying with his grandmother. The other three children were trapped. Mr Craig tried to return to save the children but was beaten back by the flames.

The fire service was on the scene within minutes but there was little it could do. Two firemen with breathing equipment tried to enter the house. They were taken to hospital suffering from burns.

One woman neighbour said she was woken by the "crackling". Another who rushed to the scene said: "All you could see was smoke. One of the wee ones was upstairs - Richard. I tried to get up twice but I couldn't, the heat and the smoke were that bad."

"I shouted and he said 'I'm in a corner'. The mother was hanging out of a window, she

gave a brief press conference, unaware he was doing so in front of a blue stencil of rabbits, fish and birds done by Jason. He said: "My officers and the community have been shocked, saddened and sickened by this horrific murder."

Asked how he felt personally, he struggled for words. He too had seen the three corpses being carried out. "I am a father myself of boys that age ...," he said, but trailed off.

Outside, Robert Coulter, a Unionist elected to Northern Ireland's new assembly last month, talked incredulously of a province "where we are burning our children on the altar of our hatred".

He added: "This is the harvest of inflammatory speeches and intransigence on both sides. We have used up all our words of condemnation."

Mrs Quinn, who was released from hospital late yesterday, decided to give her children a Catholic funeral. And while some Catholics were packing up and leaving the estate, others were still determined to stay put.

"I'm staying on," insisted one woman. "I've been here 20 years and they'll be carrying me out in a box."

In the present climate, one fears for her life.



A policeman outside the house where three children died. Yesterday some Catholics were leaving the estate

Catholics pledge peace on the Ormeau Road

By PETER FOSTER

THE prospect of violent confrontation during this morning's Orange Order march down the Roman Catholic Lower Ormeau Road in Belfast receded sharply last night after republicans promised to mount a peaceful protest against it.

Just minutes after hundreds of police and soldiers moved in to seal off side streets leading to the Lower Ormeau Road, the area's residents' group announced that it would not try to block the progress of the march, as it had in previous years.

In a show of good faith, the RUC immediately responded

by withdrawing the extra security which caused deep resentment among Catholics who found themselves in effect under a curfew.

The Ballynafeigh Orangemen will now parade down the Lower Ormeau Road before 8.30am without displaying the marching drums which provoke the Catholics.

The march has brought out the bitterest differences between the two communities. In 1992, Orange marchers danced and gave five-fingered salutes outside the Sean Graham bookmakers on the Lower Ormeau where five

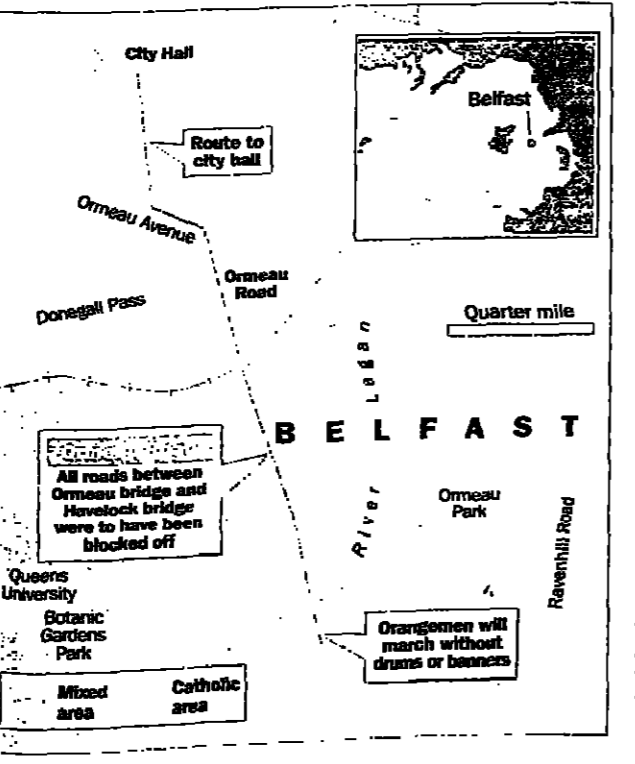
Catholics had been murdered two months earlier.

The Lower Ormeau residents' group said that they had decided to confine themselves to peaceful protest out of respect for the three Catholic boys who were killed in a sectarian arson attack in Ballymonee on Sunday.

Gerard Rice, leader of the Lower Ormeau Concerned Community (LOCC), said: "The residents of the Lower Ormeau Road have for too long been victim of the same sectarianism that brought about the murder of the three children. It is the rejection of this sectarianism which is central to our opposition to Orange marches through our community." The Catholic protest will now take the form of a silent "black flag" vigil on one side of the road, where residents will stand holding black flags in memory of those who died in the Sean Graham shooting.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, walked down the Lower Ormeau Road last night and congratulated the residents' group for what he described as their "magnanimous and generous initiative". He added: "I now call on the Orangemen to voluntarily re-route their march and begin talking to the residents. I also urge other residents' groups to follow the example of the Ormeau Road."

By early yesterday evening, the Orange Order had not responded to the Catholics' request to re-route the march, which sees them parade north across the Ormeau Bridge en route to join the main Orange parade at the Belfast City Hall.

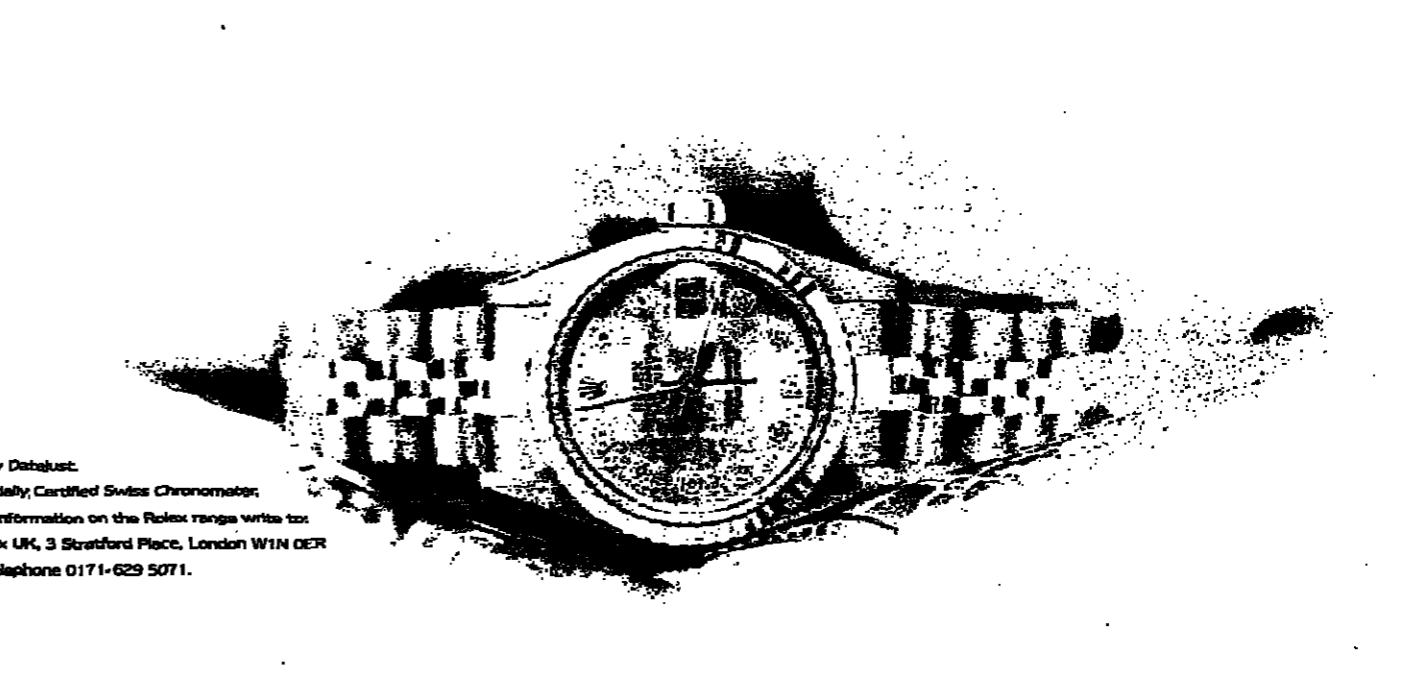


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ROLEX of Geneva

France declares its World Cup a winner

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

LONG before the final whistle last night, France was conducting a post-mortem examination into whether the organisation of the World Cup, as distinct from the French team's performance, should be considered a success.

The World Cup Organising Committee insisted that, despite ticket problems and outbreaks of hooliganism, the largest football tournament ever held had been a triumph of good planning.

"We are very proud to see that France is capable of staging such an event, it has been a wonderful occasion," said Michel Platini, the former footballer who was president of the organising committee and had looked increasingly haggard as the five-week tournament progressed.

M Platini conceded that there had been difficulties with tickets, including complaints of favouritism towards French fans, but said that "all the tickets were distributed at face value, they were all sold and all the stadiums were full".

The organisers have been criticised, however, for too much emphasis on tickets for sponsors and hospitality suites, denying access to the games for many ordinary supporters and creating a subdued atmosphere in stadiums.

ROBONALDO BEATEN BY STATIC

As the World Cup reached its climax, England continued to fight for glory in yesterday's finals of Robo-Cup (Amie Flury writes). English and Danish scientists gathered at the Science Museum in London to pitch their computer programming ability against each other.

Their key strikers were tiny motorised metal robots on wheels, slightly smaller than the average baked-bean tin. Each team had to create a computer program for its robot to enable it to decide for itself how to out-manoeuvre its opponent and get the (tennis) ball in the back of the net. The team from Queen Mary and Westfield Colleges, London University, fielded two players, Beckham and Robonaldo, although there were technical hitches at one point when Beckham refused to play. Two teams from Aarhus University, Jutland, fielded Static and Anthony. In the end, England's footballing dreams were crushed once again when Static beat Robonaldo 1-0 to net a first prize of £600.

Greater Manchester East, described the World Cup as a "tournament of smoked salmon and champagne, VIP seating and credit card fatigue" in an article for the left-wing newspaper *Tribune*.

Other critics pointed out that touting was widespread and largely ignored by the authorities. "A lot of French people have made a lot of money out of selling tickets for this tournament," said one French football official, who declined to be identified.

Whether or not the World Cup was successfully hosted, it has turned France into a nation of football fanatics. The start of the Tour de France, usually the biggest sporting event in the French calendar,

was swamped by the coverage of World Cup 98.

The *Journal du Dimanche* yesterday devoted no fewer than 23 pages to last night's football match while just two pages reported the cycling tournament, which began in Ireland at the weekend.

The French passion for fashion could not be suppressed, however. Three hundred models took to the pitch before kick-off last night in a fashion parade to mark 40 years of Yves Saint Laurent and the culmination of the tournament. Saint Laurent, 61, designed the official uniforms for the World Cup, including referees' strips and stewards' outfits.

By midday yesterday

crowds of flag-waving fans were already on the streets of Paris and the pavements of the Champs-Élysées were packed solid with French and Brazilian supporters. Motorists began sounding car horns at dawn, building to a climax that was interrupted only by the start of the match.

The cost of an advertisement on French television during last night's clash set a record. TF1, the largest privately owned television station in France, charged 1.5 million francs (£154,000) for a 30-second slot at half-time.

French politicians have also sought to make capital out of the World Cup final. Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the extreme-right National Front, claimed the fact that the French players had all sung *La Marseillaise* before kick-off was a sign of growing nationalism and support for his party.

Many others, however, have pointed to the French team's multiracial background as a powerful repudiation of M Le Pen's anti-immigrant message.

Organisers of the women's World Cup, to be held in America next summer, announced that they had sold more than 120,000 tickets since May 1, more than were sold in total when the event was last held in 1995.

Leading article, page 21
Sport, pages 25-29



An Yves Saint Laurent fashion parade kicking off events in the Stade de France last night

Yard told to check officers' sickness claims

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE officers suspected of malingering will automatically lose any chance of promotion or a transfer to a new job under moves to cut Scotland Yard's £72 million-a-year sick pay bill.

Every officer in the 26,700-strong force has been warned in a personal letter that special regulations are being introduced to check sickness claims. If they take too much time off without good reason, they will put their careers at risk. All commanders have been issued with guidance on carrying out checks on officers who are sick and those returning to work will be interviewed about their illness.

The regulations are part of a drive that also includes the use of undercover teams to investigate officers suspected of pretending to be ill.

A PC will face dismissal this week for being caught allegedly operating a carpet-cleaning business while off sick with a bad back. A woman PC, who also claimed back injury, faces an inquiry over taking a trip to America.

The National Audit Commission said last year that the Yard must review sick leave after statistics showed 1,500 officers were off sick on any working day. The NAO found a quarter of all officers on sick leave were absent for more than six months, and stress and spinal injuries accounted for 38 per cent of all injuries.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has also made clear that forces must halt malingering.

Under the Yard changes, any officer who takes an average of ten days a year off work over three years or has been away on 11 or more occasions during the same period could jeopardise any progress in his career. Officers whose records show suspicious periods of absence could also be penalised.

The Yard has told senior officers must not put these officers forward for promotion, or a move to an elite squad. Officers with genuine injuries or illness would not be affected.

Woman set to take senior position in Law Society

Frances Gibb profiles the leading lady in a male-dominated show



Bahl: well placed to become president

HISTORY will be made today when a woman is elected to a leading position in the Law Society of England and Wales for the first time.

Karnesh Bahl, 42-year-old chairwoman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, is expected to romp home in the elections for this year's office-holders who head the 75-strong, male-dominated professional body for some 70,000 solicitors.

She is standing for the position of deputy vice-president and if — as is confidently expected — she is elected, she is well placed to become the first woman President in 2000.

Worse, women solicitors are paid markedly less than men at all ranks of seniority. A survey last year showed that women salaried partners were earning an average of £9,000 less than their male counterparts, while average salaries of women assistant solicitors lagged by £4,800 behind males.

Ms Bahl, a Law Society council member, has been actively involved in mailing every law firm in England and Wales asking them to re-examine pay scales and to implement the code of practice the Equal Opportunities Commission has drawn up for all businesses. Her view is that pay equality makes good business sense. "It helps keep down staff turnover and loss of key skills to a minimum. It also sends an important message about a firm's corporate values."

Even standing for the Law Society leadership has met hostility and opposition from some quarters of the council. It is only three years since Martin Mears, self-confessed scourge of political correctness, came from nowhere and took the Law Society by storm, sweeping to power as President in the first contested elections for 40 years. His legacy is still strong: Ms Bahl, the model for Usha Gupta in *The Archers*, has been fighting for the post of deputy vice-president against a Mearite supporter, David Keating, a council member from Huddersfield.

Ms Bahl is not the archetypal PC woman candidate. She is not left-wing — whatever the Law Society council members may think of her passionate views on equality — and her background is very much Establishment: her uncle was Chief Justice in Kenya and her father, who brought the family to Britain in the 1960s when she was nine, was a civil servant.

The other results to be announced today are that of President and deputy president. The first is being fought out between the high-profile personal injuries lawyer Michael Napier, who is expected to pip Michael Mathews, a partner with Clifford Chance and favourite with the City law firms, to the top job.

Second position will go either to Mr Napier's running mate and professional rival in the personal injuries field, David McIntosh, or to the grassroots and one-time Mears supporter Robert Sayer.

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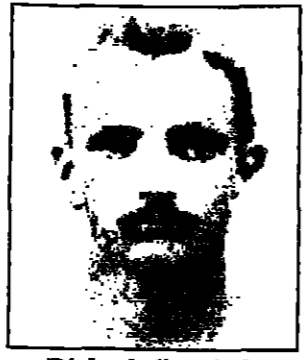
حکومت الامم المتحدة

50 من الأصل

Somme villagers honour soldiers executed as spies

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

ONE of the most dramatic episodes of the First World War was commemorated in a village on the Somme at the weekend. A plaque was unveiled to four British soldiers who survived for months behind enemy lines before being caught and executed by a German firing squad.



Digby: believed his life would be spared

As part of the ceremonies surrounding the 80th anniversary of the end of the Great War, the village of Le Catelet, near Amiens, voted to put up a permanent memorial to the four soldiers, falsely condemned for espionage, on the spot where they were killed in May 1916.

Local people, dressed in First World War uniforms, stood to attention while Wilfred Owen's *Anthem for Doomed Youth* was recited at the ceremony on Saturday morning. Among the villagers and local officials present was the 82-year-old daughter of one of the executed men.

Monique Gode, a local resident, paid tribute to the men's graves to "the British soldiers who died in hope or despair and are buried in the graveyard of our little village... They should be proud of their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, for building a Europe in a climate of peace."

The four men, from the Hampshire and King's Own

Lancaster Regiments and the Royal Irish Fusiliers, became separated from the rest of the British forces in the confusion following the battle of Cateau in August 1914.

Sergeant Robert Digby and Privates Thomas Donohoe, David Martin and William Thorpe were among a number of British troops who found themselves stranded behind enemy lines in occupied France.

For 18 months they survived on their wits and the kindness of the local people, who showed great bravery in protecting the fugitives, providing them with food, shelter and clothing. Sergeant Digby had an affair with Claire Dessenne, a local woman, who had a daughter by him.

In March 1916 the German occupation force issued an edict stating that "more people

from the enemy armies have been arrested in occupied France, having been given hospitality by the locals... Anyone having fed, housed or helped an enemy soldier will be imprisoned."

The edict, signed by General von Bülow, ordered that any enemy soldier who did not surrender by April 30 would be considered a spy and executed.

On May 16, German troops captured three of the men in their hideout in a barn. Sergeant Digby, according to his daughter, Hélène Cornaille-Digby, managed to escape but surrendered a few days later, apparently believing his life would be spared.

The men were summarily tried for espionage and sentenced to death by the German War Council at Le Catelet. The three privates were executed by firing squad against the walls of the ruined 16th-century castle in the village on May 27, 1916. Sergeant Digby was shot three days later.

"I am very proud," Mme Cornaille-Digby said after receiving a medal commemorating her father's wartime role at the ceremony, when a band played *God Save the Queen* and the *Marseillaise*.

About 100 people, including the regional police chief, the mayor and many of the local residents turned out in the drizzle as schoolchildren sang *O Valiant Hearts* to honour the British soldiers.

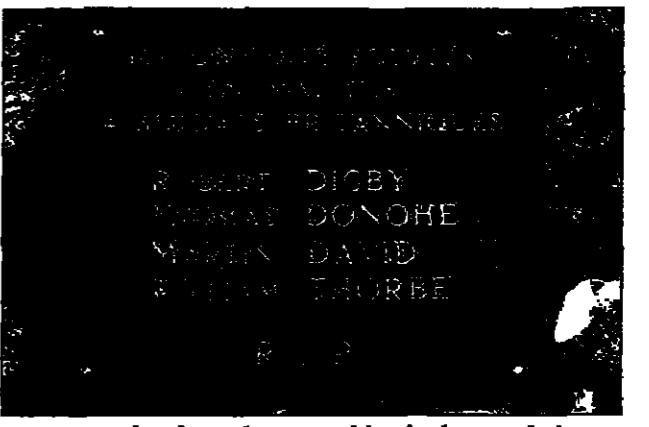


Robert Digby's daughter, Hélène Cornaille-Digby, left, paying her respects at the graves of her father and the other executed British soldiers

"It is very moving. These men are part of our history," said Jean-Luc Gibot, an expert on First World War history who helped to organise the event. After the executions in Le Catelet in 1916 the German commandant ordered villagers not to place bouquets on the graves of the dead soldiers. However, local people were determined, then as now, to pay their respects to the men. Eventually the Germans were forced to post a guard at the cemetery gates after "a mound" of flowers appeared on the freshly dug graves.



The young Hélène and her mother, Claire Dessenne. The names on the plaque lost something in the translation



Lisa Potts waits for compensation

BY RICHARD FORD HOME CORRESPONDENT

LISA POTTS, the nursery nurse severely injured while trying to protect children from a man wielding a machete, is still waiting two years later for full compensation for her injuries.

Two children injured when Horrett Campbell ran amok in a

playground at Wolverhampton are in a similar position. Ms Potts, 23, Ahmed Malik and Rhea Chopra received interim payments from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority after the attack at St Luke's Church of England infants school in July 1996. Ms Potts received £6,000 but has heard nothing more. "We have all been left in the dark," said Ms Potts, who

was awarded the George Medal for her bravery.

Unison, the public sector workers' union which is handling the compensation claim, said it was keen to get the issue sorted out. A spokeswoman said the authority had asked for further evidence of her psychological state. "The injuries and the horrors she has suffered would seem fairly clear."

Transplanted gene will cut growth of flowers

BY NIGEL HAWKES

FLOWERS with an added gene that halves their height could soon be making an appearance in florists' shops.

The development by scientists at Nottingham University and Long Ashton Research Station in Bristol should have environmental benefits because growers of many

ornamental plants use chemical sprays to restrict growth.

Shorter flowers are more attractive to florists but the chemicals used have been criticised by environmentalists. Ian Curtis, of the University of Nottingham, has developed a method of introducing a gene from a pumpkin into ornamental plants such as woody nightshade and nicotiana. The

gene produces an enzyme involved with growth factors called gibberellins. The effect is to divert the plants away from producing the particular gibberellins that promote stem growth.

The result produces plants with much lower levels of the active gibberellins in their stems and a much lower final height. Instead of growing to more than four feet,

the transformed woody nightshade plants grew less than two feet tall. Dr Curtis says he does not know what the original role of the gene was in the pumpkin but that it was clearly involved in growth control. He plans to extend the technology to chrysanthemums and lilies.

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General

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Butterfly banknote to outwit forgers

By NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY
CORRESPONDENT

BANKNOTES that resemble the wings of a red admiral or a silver-spotted skipper are being developed by scientists to combat forgery.

Michael Gale, of the Swiss research institute CSEM, believes the wings of butterflies, which are made up of microscopic grooves that scatter light into myriad colours and shades, can be reproduced in paper currency. The colours, created without the use of pigments would be virtually impossible to emulate, he said.

"The effect is similar to holograms currently used on credit cards, but they are much more difficult to forge and show well-defined colour changes if you rock the card from side to side. Also, it works well in poor light," Dr Gale said.

Scientists in Freiberg, Germany, have developed a gel coating that mimics the eyes of moths. By reducing reflection, it could be used to increase the efficiency of solar panels and to make driving in sun safer.

The application of insect properties in industry was discussed at a meeting of the Institute of Physics at the University of Bath at the weekend.

Road builders face fines if crashes delay traffic

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

SAFETY LESSONS FOR CHILDREN

Schools are to offer formal lessons in road safety and traffic sense to reduce child road deaths (Valerie Elliott and Arthur Leathley write). Britain's annual toll of 270 children killed and 44,565 injured on the roads is the third worst in the EU, behind Germany and France. In Denmark, where traffic lessons are part of the general curriculum, the child death toll is 37.

Plans to improve child safety and encourage greater numbers to walk or cycle to school are to be included in the Transport White Paper expected shortly. School runs by car contribute up to a quarter of morning rush-hour journeys. Ministers believe that if road safety instruction is improved and surrounding roads made safer by introducing measures such as 20mph speed limits, more parents would allow children to travel alone.

Ministers and officials are to examine continental schemes this summer and a new task force, the School Travel Advisory Group, will be set up in the autumn.

rather than cars, that use the road. Making lorries a source of income is intended to encourage roads firms to ensure good traffic flow by attracting heavy goods vehicles off minor roads and on to main roads. However, rewarding firms for encouraging lorry traffic will anger environmental campaigners.

The contracts are among an increasingly common system of roadbuilding, known as DBFO, under which a private consortium bids to design, build, finance and operate a major road, receiving payments from the Government for a 30-year concession. Previously payments were based on "shadow tolls", under which fees were linked to the number of cars using the road.

running into tens of thousands of pounds. Companies will be rewarded with payments for keeping roads clear during the day but there will be no payments between midnight and 6am. This is to encourage firms to carry out roadworks overnight, leaving them eligible to claim payments for keeping roads clear in the day.

The Highways Agency, which is responsible for overseeing the contracts, has advised ministers against imposing penalties on a company if traffic slows below a set speed because the traffic flow could be beyond the control of the road operator.

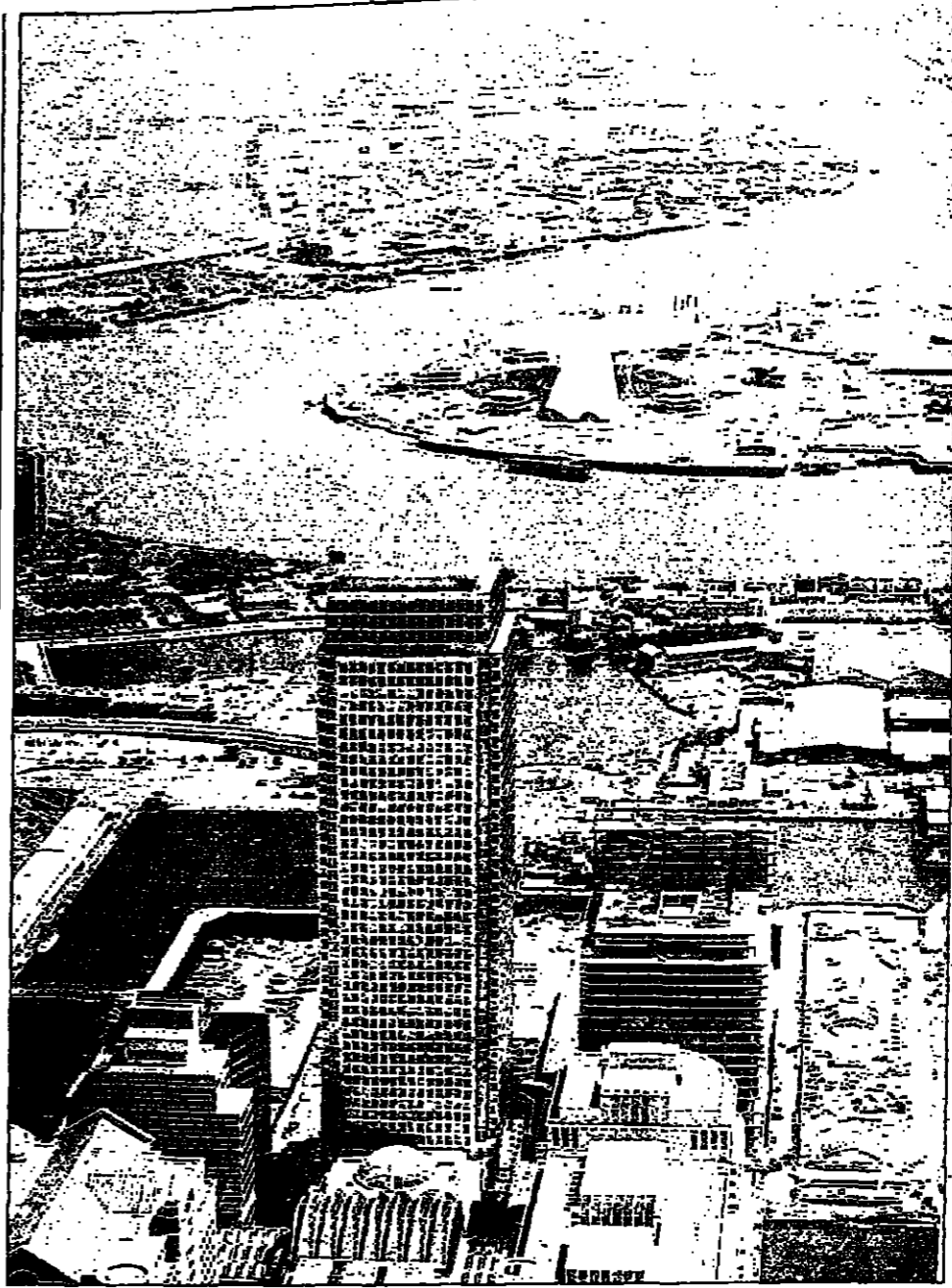
In another marked shift in policy, money will be paid to the firms in proportion to the number of buses and lorries,

The move away from shadow tolls was welcomed by Richard Diment, chief executive of BRF, which represents many of the biggest road-building firms. "The old system was based too much on the number of cars, without incentives to make sure traffic kept moving. This will put pressure on to make sure that roads are available when they are needed," he said.

Although the new rules will apply only to new road contracts, ministers are keen to extend similar targets to contracts to maintain the existing 6,600 miles of motorways and trunk roads that form the backbone of the road network.

Companies will be asked to devise plans to improve the quality of roads by using low-maintenance surfaces, and increase traffic flows by using roadside signs indicating lower speed limits at peak times.

The first details of the new contracts will be unveiled in the next two months when the Government invites private firms to bid for a £146 million contract to build and maintain the A13 into the City of London from Essex. Another 32 contracts to build and maintain motorways and trunk roads, worth a total of £7 billion over 30 years, are awaiting the go-ahead from ministers. Among the biggest are those to extend the M6 north of Carlisle, and to upgrade and to maintain several A roads linking the M1 to Luton, Leicester and Banbury.



Canary Wharf, the Dome at Greenwich and London City Airport in the background

Dome pays local airport insurance for diversions

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE organisers of the Millennium Exhibition have been forced to compensate a nearby airport whose flights face being diverted because the Dome has been built too close. Before work began on the Dome, London City Airport raised an objection with Greenwich council planners, saying that the height of the masts was likely to cause a hazard.

The exhibition site is less than two miles from the runway of one of Europe's fastest-growing airports, which last year flew 1.2 million passengers to 20 European cities.

To emphasise the exhibition theme of "Time", the Dome is held in place by 12 masts, symbolising the points of a clockface and painted in "Van Gogh sunflower yellow". Each is 300 ft tall, twice as high as Nelson's Column.

The potential danger to air passengers would arise if there was a breakdown in the airport's instrument landing system, which uses radio signals between the airfield and aircraft to guide flights safely

to the runway. Pilots would be forced to make visual approaches. If there were poor visibility, the presence of the Dome's tall masts would make it too risky to go under the clouds to see properly. Flights would have to be diverted to rival airports.

The 800ft Canary Wharf tower, Britain's tallest building, overlooks the Dome but is just outside London City Airport's crucial manoeuvring airspace.

Gary Hodgins, head of operations at the airport, said: "If our instrument landing system wasn't working and the aircraft had to make visual approaches and the weather was not good, the Dome being there could have an impact on our business. We were looking for some form of indemnity and that would either be a second landing system, so if the first one failed the second could come in, or a financial indemnity against any losses."

He added: "The Dome isn't in the way of our approach. It's not that type of obstacle. It pokes into this airspace we may want to use. If any

aircraft needed to manoeuvre in the circumstances I described, they could only do so down to a certain height. Because the Dome is there they can't go as low as they would have done if it wasn't there."

In legal negotiations, the exhibition organisers, whose £758 million project is being largely financed by £449 million from the National Lottery, agreed to insure the airport against losses. The insurance policy began in October 1997, when the masts were erected, and runs until March 2001.

Anyone who buys the Dome, which has a life span of at least 25 years, is likely to have to make similar arrangements to compensate the fast-growing airport.

The New Millennium Experience Company, the public body that owns the Dome, said it had cost just under £30,000 to insure the airport. Experts who carried out a risk assessment study predicted that the airport might lose as little as three hours of flights during the three and a half years of the policy.

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Public gets role in new era of BBC accounts

By CAROL MIDDLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A SPIRIT of glasnost will prevail at the BBC this week when, for the first time, the corporation's accounts will be presented to licence-payers by Sir John Birt.

An invited audience of more than 200, from consumer experts to educationists and pensioners' groups, will be able to question the Director-General and Sir Christopher Bland, Chairman of the Governors, about the BBC's performance at Broadcasting House on Wednesday.

Executives decided on a more open approach after claims that vague accounting practices had been used to disguise the fact that commercial ventures were being subsidised by the licence fee.

The audited accounts, which will have a clearer format, will be presented to MPs and government advisers at a meeting on Tuesday evening. Sir John may find himself facing uncomfortable questions about his salary. His total remuneration package rose nearly 9 per cent last year, while average pay for BBC workers rose less than 4 per cent.

Sir Christopher will face licence-payers again on Thursday when he has an "online chat" on the Internet. A BBC spokesman said: "We know that allegations made about cross-subsidisation are not true but we need to make that clear to the public. The idea of the AGM-style meeting is to present the accounts directly to our 'shareholders', ie, the licence-fee payers."

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Police veterans join US hunt for missing friend

Michael Horsnell reports on the saddest case for former Yard detectives

THREE former Scotland Yard detectives have come out of retirement to investigate the suspected murder of a colleague who disappeared last year during a six-month gambling trip to Las Vegas.

Paul Hannon, 44, who vanished the day before he was due to return home, is believed to have been killed for the large bundle of cash he habitually carried on gambling expeditions, then dumped in the Nevada Desert.

A veteran of the Yard's serious crime squad, Mr Hannon resigned in 1986 to make his fortune as a self-employed security consultant. His success enabled him to take long trips abroad and he was a frequent visitor to Las Vegas, where he would stay downtown at the Center Strip Motel and spend hours playing the tables.

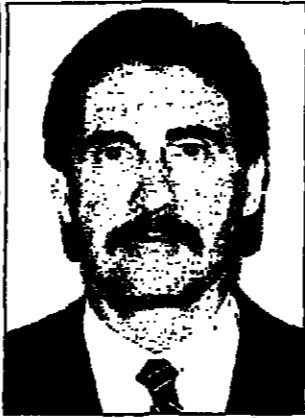
The 21-stone, 6ft 2in, red-haired former officer was last seen on September 29. Peter D'Arcy, a former Anti-Terrorist Branch detective, has flown to Las Vegas and spent more than a week piecing together his former colleague's last-known movements.

With the help of inquiries by the two other detectives, David Saunders and Ken Day, Las Vegas Police Department has decided to upgrade the case from a missing person inquiry to a murder investigation.

Mr D'Arcy, 46, also a security consultant, said yesterday: "His disappearance is



Paul Hannon while a police cadet in 1971



Peter D'Arcy: asked to help by friend's mother

buffing and we fear the worst for him. He had an exemplary police career, he loved life to the full and had no reason to disappear, but he has vanished into thin air.

"We were all close comrades in the Met and we have decided to combine our experience and skills to find out what has happened to him. Everything points to him having been murdered for his cash and his body having been dumped in the desert."

Mr Hannon was reported missing a month after he failed to make his regular telephone call to his widowed mother, Lorraine Knighton. "He always called me every Sunday morning when he was in England and every fortnight when he was abroad. So

when he didn't call at the end of September, I knew something was terribly wrong," Mrs Knighton, from Swaffham, Norfolk, said.

"I have faced up to the fact that I won't be seeing him again but it is terrible not knowing what has happened to him."

The motel manager told Mrs Knighton that her son's room had been abandoned on September 29 but that his clothes and suitcase had been left behind.

Little was done to trace him because there was no evidence of foul play and he was regarded only as a missing person, until his mother asked his former colleagues to step in. Mr D'Arcy made contact with Detective Jeff Rosgen of

Las Vegas Police Department, who joined him to interview everyone they could find who was known to have had contact with Mr Hannon.

Sylvia Lopez, Mr Hannon's girlfriend, told Mr D'Arcy that he had been due to catch a Virgin Atlantic flight on Tuesday, September 30, to keep an appointment in London for treatment for an ear condition.

"We checked the disembarkation cards for all Paul's previous trips to America and we established that on this trip he has not officially left the States," Mr D'Arcy said. "He always carried a large wad of notes, it was one of his trademarks, and the most likely conclusion to make is that he was killed for it."

Mr Hannon had lunch with his girlfriend the day before he planned to fly home. From her home in California, Ms Lopez, 48, said: "He seemed very happy and said he was coming back two weeks later and we planned to meet up again. He was a lovely man, his own man in every way, and he had a really cute, dry sense of humour. I rang him on the Monday night and, again, he sounded fine and said he was going to bed early. After that I never heard from him again."

Mr Rosgen said: "He was a big man in every sense, with red hair and a British accent. There's no way he wouldn't have been noticed if he was still alive."



Mr Hannon vanished after the lunch in Las Vegas at which this photograph was taken

Praising children 'can lead to failure'

BY A CORRESPONDENT

CLEVER children should not be praised for their intelligence and academic achievement because it leaves them vulnerable to failure. Conversely, children praised for hard work overcome hurdles and achieve more, according to American research published yesterday.

Carol Dweck and Claudia Mueller, from Columbia University, New York City, who studied more than 400 children, say in the American Psychological Association's *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*: "Praising children's intelligence, far from boosting their self-esteem, encourages them to embrace self-defeating behaviours, such as worrying about failure and avoiding risks."

"However, when children are taught the value of concentrating, strategising and working hard when dealing with academic challenges, this encourages them to sustain their motivation, performance and self-esteem."

The findings reinforce those of Paul Black and Dylan William, two professors from King's College London, who said five months ago that teachers should abandon giving marks out of ten and gold stars.

Dr William said yesterday: "We should stop focusing on ability and achievement and start focusing on effort and what children need to do."

Fall in graduate recruits puts maths teaching at risk

By VICTORIA FLETCHER

SCHOOLS are facing a recruitment crisis in mathematics teaching, with a 26 per cent drop in the number of graduates applying to enter secondary teacher training in the subject in the past year.

The television advertising campaign in which well-known people named the

teachers who had inspired them does not seem to have attracted more graduates to the profession. Margaret Hodge, the Labour MP who chairs the Commons Select Committee on Education, said the recruitment figures were depressing. "If we do not see real progress, we won't be

able to deliver any of our education proposals."

The number of women joining the teaching profession has dropped, a new development which shows the extent of the problem, according to John Howson, who formerly worked for the Teacher Training Agency. While the numbers of male applicants has been falling for some time, women applicants had previously shored up the figures.

Mrs Hodge said that the Government had ignored the select committee's proposals to attract more graduates to enter teaching.

David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, announced moves last week to improve mathematics teaching in primary schools with a return to traditional methods. He also promised an autumn campaign to attract more mathematicians and scientists into teaching.



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PAUL COUSANS

Stars shine on the home-made opera house

Russell Jenkins on a triumph for one man and his dream of bringing big names into a rural aria

AN OPERA theatre created by a music buff as a hobby is attracting international performers who want to sing in the open air against the backdrop of the Peak District.

The venue is down a remote farm track in Cheshire, stone for the stage came from a street-clearance scheme, and a covered area is from a garden centre. The total cost was £15,000. The night sky was free. During one production, a shooting star burnt past and the moon has been known to appear on cue from the clouds during love scenes.

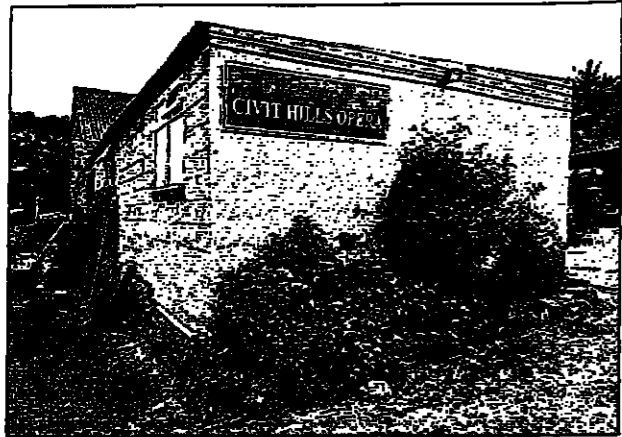
Five years on, the creation of

Albert Menaged, 69, is attracting tenors and sopranos more accustomed to the Metropolitan in New York, La Scala in Milan and Covent Garden. At the venue set on sloping land behind his 17th-century farmhouse, the soprano Simone Sauphanor launched this season's festival as *Mimi* in Puccini's *La Bohème* and Anne Dawson is appearing next month.

Patrons describe the rustic simplicity of the Civit Hills Opera, near Macclesfield, as akin to Glyndebourne before the war. They receive directions with their £19.50 tickets

and are told not to worry when they wobble over the third cattlegrid in succession, and past the screeching white peacock, fields of sheep and stables of four-in-hand ponies.

"It is a triumph of passion over reason," Mr Menaged, a textile manufacturer, said. "There was no common sense to it, just my love of opera." Like the venue, the 450-seat events are organised on a shoestring, staged without the aid of big sponsors and driven by the energy of its creator and his family. His wife and two adult daughters sell programmes, serve at the bar and shift scenery.



Making an entrance: the way into Civit Hills Opera

"I suppose the idea had been in my subconscious for some years but I did not turn the dream into reality until 1993," says Mr Menaged, who had realised that the slope behind his 17th-century farmhouse formed a natural amphitheatre. "I suppose I am a bit of an eccentric. Fortunately my wife, Irene, knows this and did not oppose me. However, I am not a wealthy man and had to use my business know-how to create the theatre as cost-effectively as possible."

The terracing was cut with a mechanical digger. Dry-stone walls used stone from the fields to reinforce the banking.



Albert Menaged enjoys his "triumph of passion over reason" as the audience picnics before a performance. His creation cost him £15,000

The 1,500 stone flags that completed the seating and the stage came as a job lot. "I heard that a street in Birkenhead was going to be improved and they were selling all the old concrete flags. They are antiques with character and in the end I bought the entire street for £1,500.

"I had been quoted £45,000 for a marquee and decided to

look around for something considerably cheaper. There are a lot of horticultural nurseries in this area and it dawned on me that the huge plastic cloches which they use could be adapted for my purpose. It cost £6,000. From announcing to my family what I was going to do, it took three months to complete."

A paddock became the car

park. The atmosphere is informal. Patrons can picnic in the open air before performances and they do not have to wear black tie.

Mr Menaged says: "I hinted two years ago that black tie would not be unwelcome but we got so many letters from people saying that they came to Civit Hills for the true opera, and the informality was

a part of all that. I think the two ingredients that make this theatre so much loved is the grand setting in this lovely valley and the sincerity of our approach to genuine opera. We are 100 per cent driven by the music."

The terracing and the stage are covered so that the show goes on even in the poorest weather and the skies become

part of the drama. Robin Martin-Oliver, the theatre's artistic director and an associate director of Glyndebourne, recalls the shooting star that featured one night and how, several nights ago, the moon appeared just at the right time during a love scene between *Mimi* and *Rodolfo*.

"Performances can be quite magical," he said.

Girls 'are endangering tradition of all-male cathedral choir'

Organists complain that choral music is being threatened by political correctness, Ruth Gledhill reports

THE growing number of girls' choirs in cathedrals could be damaging the traditional all-male choir beyond repair, according to a report published today by leading organists.

Boys are increasingly unwilling to join choirs where girls have been admitted because they do not want to be seen doing "girlish things", the report by the Friends of Cathedral Music says. The organisation, which is "monitoring developments" in girls' choirs, gives warning that the tradition of male choral music in cathedrals is being threatened by political cor-

rectness. It says that boys who are prepared to dress up in "white surplices and triple ruffs" if they sing with men begin to think twice if girls appear alongside them. The growing shortage of boys means that there will be fewer men able to sing bass or tenor in cathedral or other choirs at a time when most choral music is still written with parts that must be sung by men.

Peter Giles, a former lay clerk at Canterbury Cathedral, says that

girls' choirs are a serious threat to the all-male tradition. "They will certainly lead to an end to that tradition within a generation, and much sooner in some places," he writes in the report. "Make no mistake, the singing boy is already an endangered species."

Since Richard Seal, organist at Salisbury Cathedral, introduced a girls' choir in 1990, such choirs have flourished and they now operate in about a third of England's Anglican cathedrals. No

cathedral in England has a fully mixed choir. In most places the girls' and boys' choirs sing separately but always with the men. Some cathedrals, such as York Minster, are embracing total parity, with plans for girls to sing half the services with the men.

One of the problems facing cathedrals that introduce a girls' choir is the sheer cost of housing, clothing and financing two separate choirs, which can run into thousands of pounds. In one

northern cathedral, the annual deficit equals the choral expenses.

Gordon Stewart, organist at Blackburn Cathedral, says that it has become politically unacceptable to have all-male choirs. He notes wryly: "It's all right to destroy centuries of tradition for the sake of political correctness."

He continues: "How do I get on, working in a place like Blackburn, with a bunch of 30 boys, some of them aged 14, dressed up in white surplices and triple ruffs? It works

because it is an all-male environment and the men are in white surplices too and they are just as disciplined in rehearsals as the boys ... make singing into something the girls do, and you will find very few real little boys wanting to do it."

He says proof of that can be found in choirs in state schools and parish churches, where girls have sung alongside boys for decades and where there is now a shortage of boys wanting to sing.

"Lovely as they are, girls do not become tenors or basses," he says. "The fact is that there is no girl of 14 who sounds like Ernest Lough did at that age, or an Aled Jones or Paul Phoenix. The tradition is unique. Visitors come from all over the world to marvel at our great cathedral choirs."

However, Dr Seal, writing in the same report, defends the emergence of girls' choirs. He says that Salisbury is planning for the girls always to sing separately from the boys: "There was never any intention that they would be mixed or that they would sing together."

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Hague out for

Nicholas Wood

Brown d over Bud

Harman friendly

HARRIET HARMAN will call for an end to the culture of working 12 hours, which she says is preventing fathers from caring for their children.

In a speech to the Ministry of Health, Harman represents parents who are Security Secretary and Minister for Women will introduce a child friendly award to ease the burden on competing demands of work and child rearing, particularly those without wives or partners also working.

Although the Government is attempting to encourage all parents to seek paid employment, Harman believes that this cannot properly be achieved until more employers introduce more flexible work patterns. "It isn't good if

صكزامن الأصل

Hague and Lilley go all out for the big apology

Nicholas Wood reports on an imaginative site for pressing Tory flesh

WILLIAM HAGUE has chosen a temple of "Cool Britannia" for this week's launch of what threatens to be the longest apology in British political history.

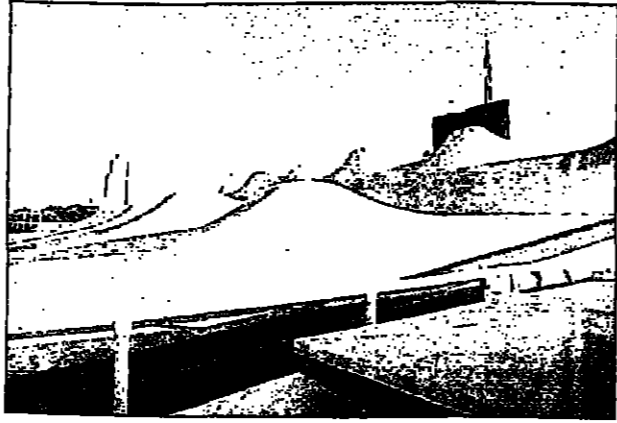
The Imagination Gallery, an avant-garde steel and fabric tent, perched above the London headquarters of one of the country's trendiest design and communication firms, has been chosen by the Conservative Party leader as the venue for the unveiling of his "Listening to Britain" quest for new policies tomorrow.

A key theme of the £250,000 project, which will involve every member of the Shadow Cabinet in 50 meet-the-people sessions over the next 12 months, will be an admission that John Major's Government lost touch with its natural supporters.

But it is Mr Hague's choice of venue off Tottenham Court Road that will raise the most eyebrows and risk derision from Tory diehards, who have yet to recover from his wearing a baseball cap or attending the Notting Hill Carnival.

Imagination's 200-strong creative team did much of the initial work on the Millennium Dome. And its gallery, a flexible space that can be adapted to suit the occasion, is accustomed to smarter clients than the rather dog-eared Tories.

Calvin Klein, Estee Lauder, the Genesis World Tour, Karl Lagerfeld, Vogue, Microsoft



Imagination Gallery, where the Tory campaign begins

and Psion are just some of its past guests.

Mr Hague's cash-strapped party is understood to be paying about £2,500 for the privilege of inviting the Westminster media circus to step beyond humdrum venues such as the Lincoln-floored Methodist Central Hall or Conservative Central Office.

Peter Lilley, the Tories' deputy leader, was the prime mover in choosing the Imagination Gallery. In an interview with *The Times*, he said it gave off "good vibes".

A spokesman for Mr Hague said he was not trying to jump aboard the controversial Cool Britannia bandwagon. The gallery had been chosen to emphasise the fact that there were no boundaries to the policy rethink. "The whole

point of choosing the Imagination Gallery is to emphasise we are thinking creatively and we want the people who come to our meetings to do the same," said the spokesman.

Mr Lilley denied that the Tories would be asking the British public to tell them what policies to pursue. Instead they would be asking the general public and professionals to identify hopes and fears for the next century.

"We are not asking people what our policies should be. We are asking what are the problems, issues and concerns to which we need to respond."

"We need to renew our policies, not because they have failed but precisely because they succeeded in solving most of the big challenges we faced in the 1980s. Now we need to

identify the challenges and problems and opportunities that will face us in the next century.

"We have to accept that we were perceived by the electorate as not listening to them. Their concerns moved on after we solved the big problems and we did not seem to be listening to their new concerns. This is different from going out and asking them what our policies should be. At the end of the day, we will have to come up with policies based on Conservative principles once we have identified the agenda of issues."

Mr Lilley made clear that one policy was not up for grabs - Conservative opposition to the euro in this Parliament and the next.

He said there would be 150 meetings in all - 100 of which would be organised by local Tory parties and affiliated bodies. Of the 50 national meetings, about a dozen would be open-house sessions for the public and would be attended by Mr Hague or himself. Mr Hague would begin the programme in Shropshire on Friday.

The other meetings would be devoted to specific subjects such as health, education and business and attended by Shadow Cabinet members. Local radio disc jockeys would be invited to chair many of the meetings.

Leading article, page 21



Shankar: sitar exponent

Honour for daughter of sitar man

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE teenage daughter of the sitar maestro Ravi Shankar is to demonstrate her prowess on the instrument to an audience of MPs and ambassadors. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, will honour her for services to Asian music.

Anoushka Shankar, 17, will be the soloist at a House of Commons recital on Friday. Her father, Ravi, 78, is regarded as the leading exponent of the instrument and is credited with having a major influence on the music of the Beatles.

Yesterday, her mother, Sukanya, said: "Although Anoushka now lives in California she grew up in London. She hopes her uncle George [Harrison] will be there."

Anoushka Shankar: she will be honoured by Robin Cook for services to Asian music

Brown defends adviser over Budget 'leak' claim

By NICHOLAS WATT
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DRAPER ADMISSION

GORDON BROWN reacted angrily yesterday to an accusation that his closest economic adviser leaked details of the Budget last July. The Chancellor's spokesman dismissed the claims as cocktail-party gossip and a travesty of the truth.

A new book claims the Treasury's most senior mandarin suspected that Ed Balls, one of the Chancellor's closest advisers, leaked details that tax credits on dividends would be abolished. The newly ennobled Sir Terence Burns, the Treasury's Permanent Secretary at the time, passed on his suspicions to Lord Butler, then the Cabinet Secretary.

A new biography of the Chancellor, *Gordon Brown, the First Year in Power*, says that Lord Butler wrote a memorandum to Tony Blair and the Prime Minister passed a copy to Mr Brown. The Chancellor insisted that the allegation against Mr Balls was untrue. The biography, by the ITN political correspondent Hugh Pym, says that Alastair Campbell, Mr Blair's spokesman, believed that stories about the tax credits were based on a wide range of briefings.

A Treasury spokesman yesterday dismissed the claims of a leak: "All this seems to be based on cocktail-party gossip and is a travesty of the truth. The only Budget leak over recent years was the whole of a Tory Budget."

Yesterday's claims highlighted the virtual breakdown

Derek Draper, the lobbyist who triggered the cash-for-access row, admitted for the first time yesterday that he had damaged Peter Mandelson by boasting of his close links with senior members of the Government. In a television interview, Mr Draper was asked if he had harmed the Minister without Portfolio, who employed him as his most senior adviser when Labour was in opposition. Mr Draper paused before telling GMTV's *Sunday Programme*: "Yeah... it looks as if people are having a go at Peter Mandelson via me, and as someone who thinks of themselves as a friend of Peter Mandelson, then I'm not pleased about that."

in relations between Mr Brown's close circle of advisers and Sir Terence, who has since left the Treasury. It was an open secret that Mr Balls was barely on speaking terms with Sir Terence, who, in turn, was wary of the influence that the 30-year-old Oxford and Harvard graduate had over the Chancellor.

The Tories seized on the claims yesterday to renew their charges of "cronyism" at the heart of Government. Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, wrote to Mr Brown saying that the allegations raised "a serious question mark over the integrity of the Treasury".

Mr Maude told Radio 4's

The World this Weekend: "This Government came into office full of rhetoric about how they were going to have the highest standards. That has proved to be baloney and it means everything they say has to be treated with the gravest suspicion."

The row overshadowed the final preparations for the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review, which the Chancellor will announce in the Commons tomorrow. It is understood that the review will introduce an increase in pensions. One report said yesterday that the Chancellor would disclose that all pensioner couples will receive a minimum weekly pension of £116.60 from next April, an increase of 13 per cent.

The year-long spending review was designed to identify savings so that resources could be targeted on health and education. It is understood that there will be a tough regime next year but that the spending on health and education will increase in the final two years of the three-year review.

Mr Maude said yesterday that the review would highlight a vacuum in government policy because the Chancellor had failed to square the circle on taxation and spending. Labour said the black hole in their spending plans would be filled by savings on the welfare budget, which they have spectacularly failed to deliver. So public spending and taxes are going up," he said.

Peter Riddell, page 20

Harman calls for 'child friendly' working hours

By ALEXANDRA FREAN
SOCIAL AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

HARRIET HARMAN will call today for an end to the culture of working long hours, which she claims is preventing fathers from playing a greater part in caring for their children.

In a speech to the Maternity Alliance, a charity that represents pregnant women and new parents, the Social Security Secretary and Minister for Women will urge more companies to introduce "child friendly" hours to ease the burden on fathers trying to balance the competing demands of work and child rearing, particularly those whose wives or partners also work.

Although the Government is attempting to encourage all parents to seek paid employment, Ms Harman believes that this cannot properly be achieved until more employers introduce more flexible work patterns. "It isn't good if



Harman: said fathers were needed at home

work squeezes out time for children. Children need their parents' time.

"Children need to know that their parents are there for them - on a regular basis and in times of emergency," she will say.

"Family friendly employment gives fathers more opportunity to bond with their children and play a more active part in their upbringing... the responsibilities of fathers are central

- they should have rights too. We want to stress that children have a right to the financial and emotional support of both parents."

Mounting a clear challenge to employers, Ms Harman will add: "The Government recognises that the length of the working day and the week is important for fathers who want to combine working with bringing up a family successfully. So we are determined to address the problems of the 'long hours' culture to help those who work long hours to make ends meet."

Ms Harman believes that there is a strong business case, as well as a strong moral case, for family-friendly employment practices. She will tell companies that such policies will help them "to recruit and retain quality staff, maximise the returns on investment in staff training, reduce sick absence and help to meet the demands of the 24-hour economy".

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AIR FRANCE

WINNING THE HEARTS OF THE WORLD

Fickle voters know what they don't like but not what they do

The Germans have rarely been so unsettled before an election. Some recent opinion polls reveal a frightening lack of confidence in democracy. The shakiness is most evident in the east — which seems to have lost faith entirely in the political process — but is also infecting the west.

Here are some polling snapshots of Germany today. Can the country's problems still be solved in a democratic way? asked the Allensbach Institute. In 1981 some 41 per cent of East Germans thought it was possible. Now barely 30 per cent trust in democratic solutions. In West Germany

INSIDE GERMANY



BY ROGER BOYES

65 per cent thought that democracy had the answers, now only 56 per cent think so. Two disastrous world wars, the collapse of their currency,

the shift from monarchy to fragile democracy and then on to a murderous totalitarian state, the postwar division of the country and its difficult unification have sapped Germans' confidence in their governors.

Even so, what is one to make of this Allensbach finding? Germans were presented with the following proposition: *I am concerned that our society is steering towards a great crisis. We cannot solve the problems with our current political possibilities. We can do it only if we fundamentally change our political system.*

In 1995 a total of 41 per cent of east Germans agreed with

that statement. Now 59 per cent think it is correct. West Germans were first asked the question in 1986 and only 16 per cent thought it was sensible. Now 39 per cent agree.

One reading of this sample would be that east Germans are in an almost pre-revolutionary mood. Even the most bland analysis suggests that east Germans are adrift. Regional elections in Saxony-Anhalt showed the effect.

An eight-week campaign launched by a free-spending neo-Nazi millionaire was sufficient to capture 13 per cent of the vote for the ultra-national-

ist German People's Union, which has no roots in the region. Voters in the east, still new to the party system, are unpredictable and seem to have no fixed allegiances. More than 40 per cent say they do not know how they are going to vote in the September general election. One in three western Germans is also still undecided.

The conventional wisdom is that the election will be decided in the final four weeks. Under the circumstances it is too early to dismiss Helmut Kohl's re-election chances. The opinion sampling shows a strange blend of emotion. A desire for change, but not

necessarily in favour of the Social Democrats, competes with a nervousness about any kind of change.

A big swing to the far Right is feasible, but so, too, is a sudden burst of conservatism and a rallying around the Chancellor.

The traditional assumptions have broken down, and so predicting the outcome of elections is a fickle art. In four general elections Herr Kohl managed to ride to power on the back of an economic recovery. This time again the economy is on the mend and will be healthy by election day — September 27. But the difference is that politicians

cannot reduce unemployment figures even when order books are full and profits are soaring.

The result is a broad rejection of the political elite and a politicisation of the unemployed. "I am particularly disturbed by the way that these doubts about the system are being expressed," says Renate Köcher of the Allensbach Institute.

"Do we need a new electoral system? Should we change our federal system? Maybe we should centralise or decentralise it? You can ask whatever concrete question

you want and you get a majority of purely negative answers."

It is, she says, an unfocused but profound discontent. "That naturally presents questions about the stability of German democracy. I would be curious to know what would happen if we had a serious economic crisis stretching over five years."

Germany has a robust democracy with good checks and balances. It is a solid place and the 1990s are emphatically not the 1930s. Something, however, seems to be going wrong.

Schröder's rise, page 20

False alarm took Russia to brink of nuclear war

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE EDITOR

PRESIDENT YELTSIN activated his "nuclear briefcase" for a retaliatory attack against the West in 1995 when Russian early warning stations picked up what they thought was an approaching American Trident ballistic missile, according to a television documentary.

A Moscow news agency report at the time announced that Russia had shot down an incoming missile launched from northern Europe. It turned out to be a Norwegian weather research rocket.

However, in a reconstruction of the incident, including interviews with key Russian military officials, Channel 4's *Equinox* programme has discovered how close the world was to a ballistic missile launch by Moscow.

After the approaching missile was spotted, Moscow began a ten-minute countdown to launching a retaliatory strike in the belief that an American Trident submarine operating in the Norwegian Sea or Barents Sea, had launched a missile.

At six minutes to impact, the Russians switched on a special communications circuit which connected military headquar-

ters with silo-based missiles, missile-carrying trains and submarines. At five minutes to impact, President Yeltsin would have had to make a decision about transmitting "unblocking codes" to make a launch possible.

Colonel Robert Bykov, a former commander of a mobile missile regiment, part of the Russian Strategic Rocket Forces, says in the documentary, *Russian Roulette*, which will be shown tomorrow: "These first few minutes caused a lot of alarm and a lot of tension." He reveals that orders were given to Russian ballistic missile submarines to go on battle stations.

Bruce Blair, a former American nuclear forces commander and now a member of the Brookings Institute in Washington, says: "The military actually issued orders to the Strategic Rocket Forces to prepare to receive the next command which would have been the launch order."

A decision to launch Russian missiles has to be made by three men, the President, the Defence Minister and the Chief of the General Staff. The nuclear briefcases, containing communication and missile

launch terminals and carried by aides for all three, were activated "for the first time ever", the programme claims.

The launch of the Norwegian Black Brent XXI rocket which took place on January 25, 1995, ended "successfully" when it crashed into the ocean near the Arctic archipelago of Spitsbergen, more than 600 miles from Russian territory. It was part of a joint Norwegian-American project investigating the Northern Lights.

The Moscow news agency was wrong when it claimed that the missile had been shot down. However, as its burners fell to Earth, the Russians thought they were warheads heading south. Moscow abandoned the countdown when it realised the missile's trajectory was not on its territory.

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs had been forewarned by the Norwegian authorities six weeks earlier, but the information was not passed on to the appropriate military commanders.

Colonel Bykov says the incident underlined the potential dangers posed by Russian missile forces because of the poor state of the early warning systems.



Francesco Schiavone is led away by a policeman

Fugitive Camorra boss is run to ground in bunker

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ITALIAN authorities were jubilant yesterday after the capture of Francesco Schiavone, the most wanted boss of the Camorra, the Neapolitan version of the Mafia.

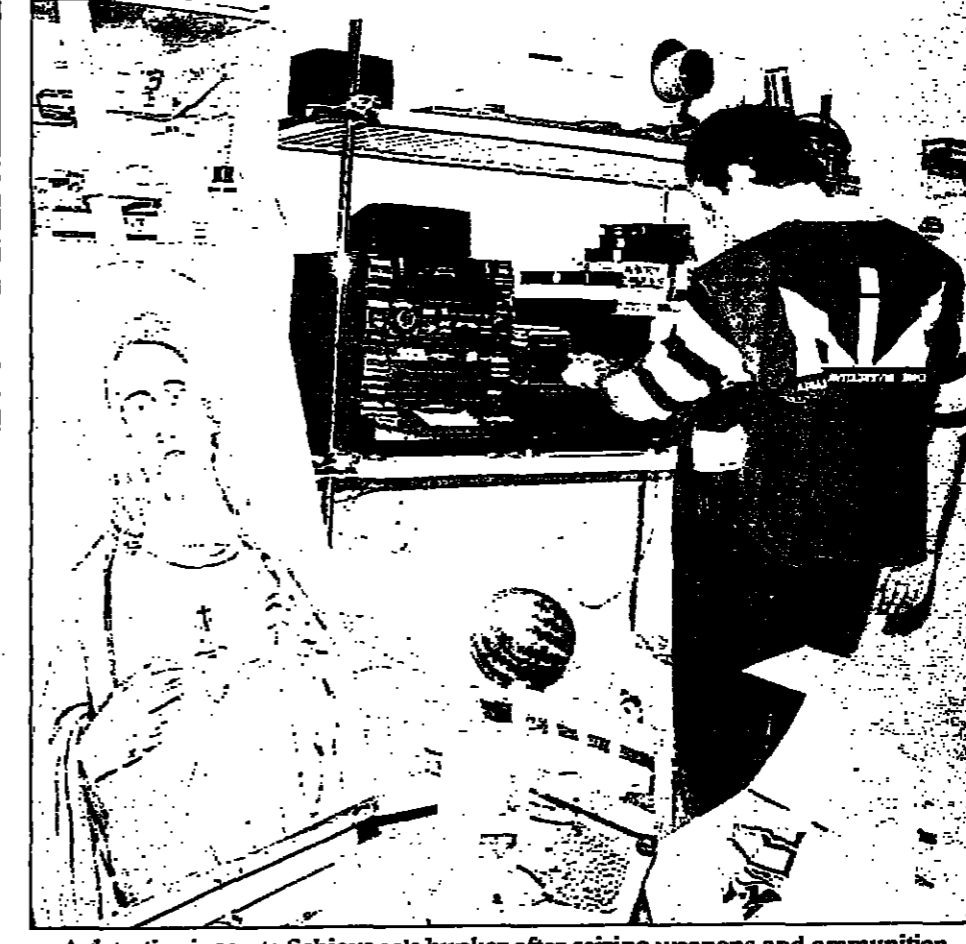
A 12-hour siege of Schiavone's villa at Casal di Principe in the province of Caserta ended on Saturday when scores of police officers waded into the crime gang chief, who was hiding in an underground bunker in the grounds of his estate.

Schiavone, 44, had been on the run for five years and is accused of carrying out a dozen murders, including the elimination of his two prede-

cessors and the killing in 1994 of a Roman Catholic priest.

Agents of the Direzione Investigativa Antimafia, the anti-Mafia police department, said that Schiavone had controlled a crime empire worth 5,000 billion lire (£1.6 billion). This had been built up largely through the extortion of money on lucrative public works contracts in Campania, including the construction of a high-speed train network in southern Italy.

Police said they realised that Schiavone was in the villa through telephone taps and after officers disguised as labourers managed to place a



A detective inspects Schiavone's bunker after seizing weapons and ammunition

satellite-linked bug under the Rover car used by the mobster's wife, Giuseppina. About 40 armed police hid in two parked lorries burst into the villa compound after the electronically controlled gates of the villa perimeter opened to allow the gangster's chauffeur to drive inside.

The officers found no trace of the boss in the villa but heard a voice from under a nearby outhouse. Teargas was tossed into an air-condi-

tioning system found in the building and officers started to demolish a suspicious-looking granite wall with pneumatic drills. At that point Schiavone shouted, "Don't shoot, there are children here," and the wall swung open revealing Schiavone, his wife and two tearful children, Angela, three, and Chiara, two.

Both girls had been born while Schiavone was at large, showing that he had been

able to see his wife regularly. Beneath the outhouse police found a three-floor hideaway with two bedrooms, a kitchen and a living room. The hideaway was crammed with oil paintings by Schiavone, an amateur artist, including portraits of Jesus, Mussolini and Napoleon.

The authorities had been closing in since a robbery became a supergrass under police protection seven months ago.

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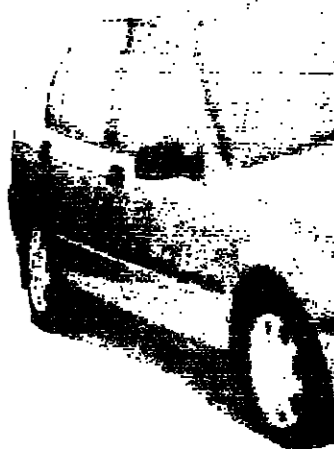
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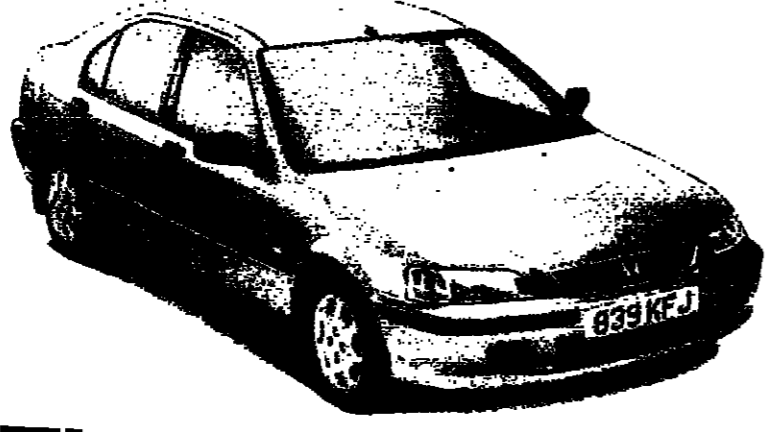
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THE TIMES MONDAY JULY 13 1998



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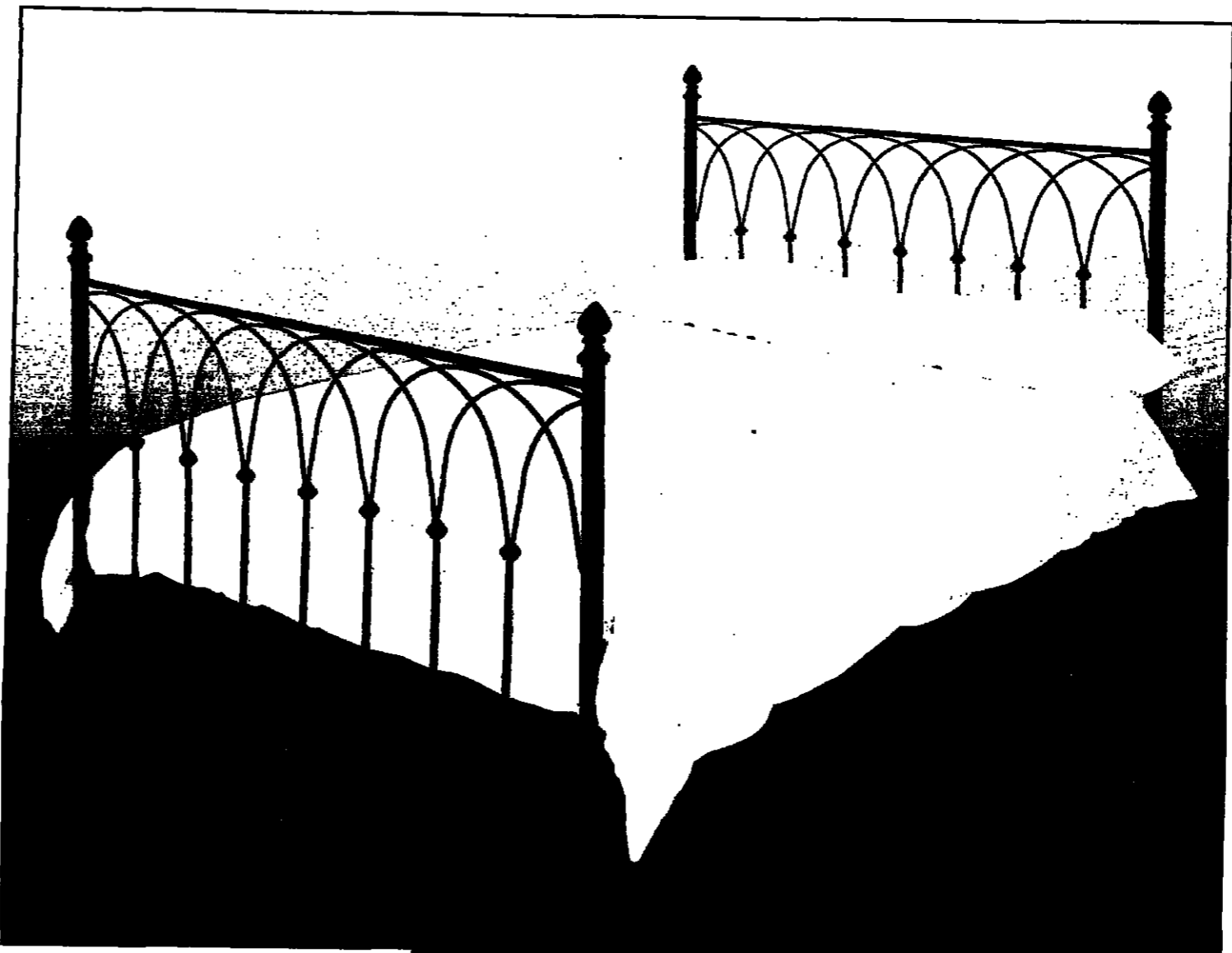
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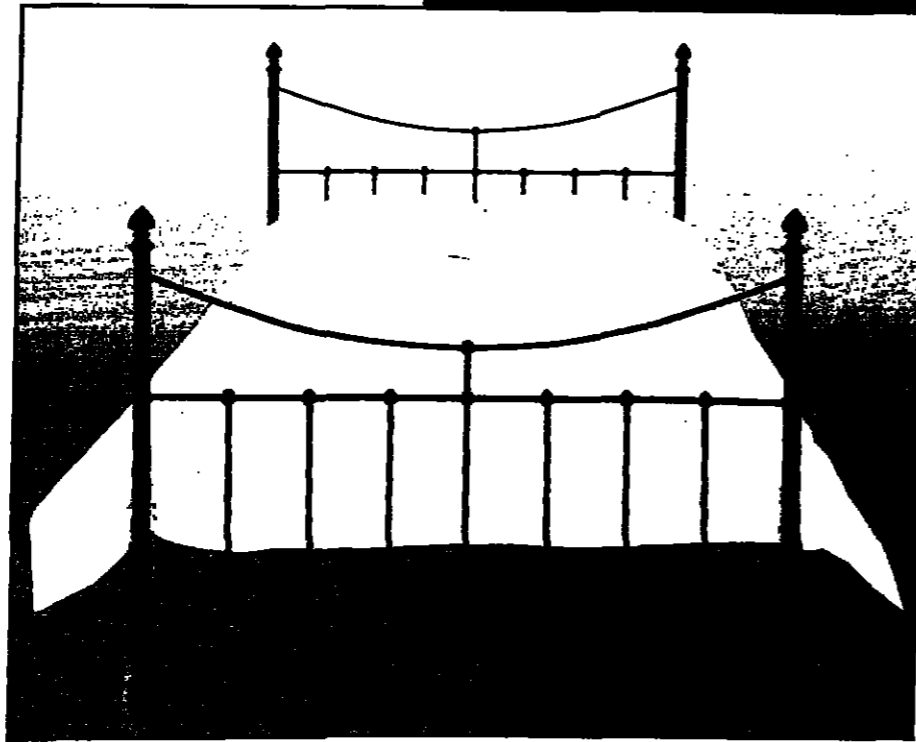
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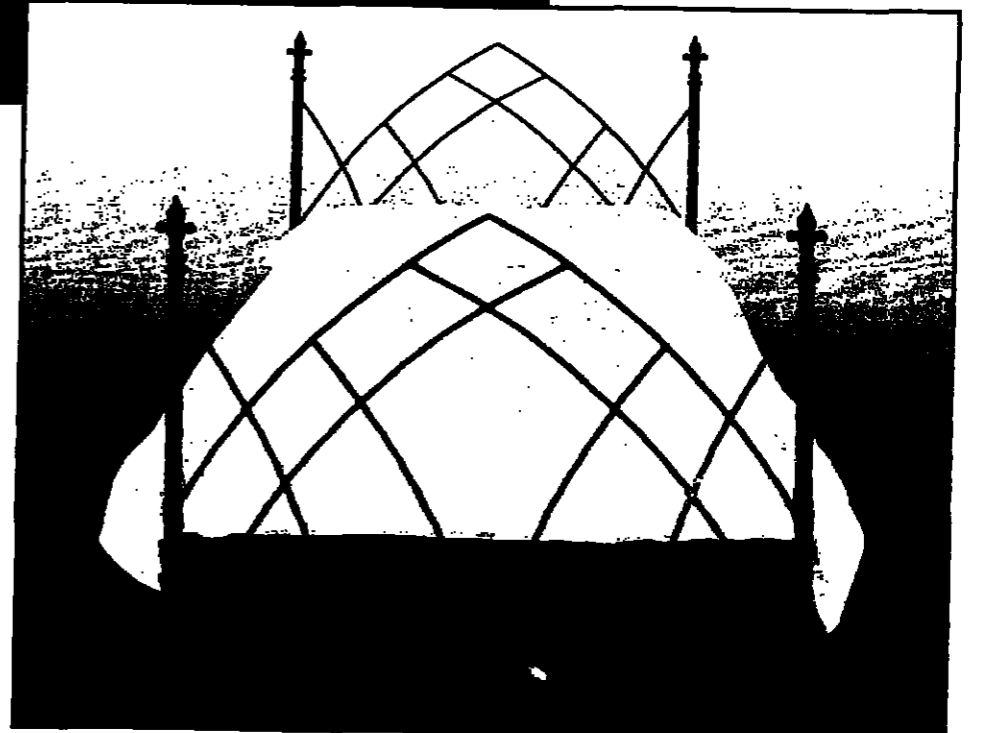
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On the wing: some bird populations are dependent on seeds and insects which could be eradicated by the advent of genetically modified crops

Silent spring, 2020

It is the year 2020 and the most silent of silent springs, apart from the rustle of genetically engineered oil-seed rape, wheat, maize and other "designer" crops nodding in the breeze. Songbirds such as the lark, linnet and mistle thrush, long in decline, have finally fled the English countryside because the seed-producing weeds on which they depend have been eradicated from fields and hedgerows by relentless chemical spraying made possible by biotechnology.

Genetically altered plants could wreak environmental havoc. Nick Nuttall reports

modified plants, echoing that of Rachel Carson's classic book about the pesticide DDT. *Silent Spring*. Biotechnology companies claim that such fears are alarmist nonsense and that designer crops are not only safe but will lead to fewer chemicals being needed. Nevertheless, calls of alarm are no longer confined to the green lobby. Professor John Beringer, the chairman of the government committee that advises on genetically modified organisms (GMOs), is voicing similar concerns. "Theoretically, if all crops were herbicide-tolerant, there would be less food available for wild species," says Professor Beringer, the chairman of the Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment. "If crops are made insect-resistant, where will all the insects go?"

English Nature, the Government's wildlife adviser, is urging a temporary ban on the commercial planting of genetically altered crops, saying that more research is needed. Despite some 500 sites having been used for gene-altered crop trials over the past eight years, there have been few studies of the wider environmental threats. That is cause for concern, says Dr Brian Johnson, English Nature's expert on genetically modified organisms. He points out that scientists at the Scottish Crop Research Institute in Dundee found that genetically modified potatoes, which produce a toxin to aphids, can harm beneficial ladybirds. The ladybirds that fed on peach-potato aphids, which in turn had fed on the sap of the modified potatoes, laid fewer eggs and lived only half as long. The institute also found that, contrary to the claims of some companies, pollen from certain so-called transgenic crops can travel for up to two

Alarm is no longer confined to the green lobby

Happy event Reactor doubt Particle hunt

A star gives birth

Astronomers using a British telescope in Hawaii have discovered what appears to be a solar system forming around a star ten light years away. The star, Epsilon Eridani, is similar to the Sun and has around it a ring of dust like the comet belt in our solar system, and a bright region that may be evidence of a planet. "What we see looks just like the comet belt on the outskirts of our solar system, only younger," said Dr Jane Greaves of the Joint Astronomy Centre in Hawaii, who presented the results at a conference in Santa Barbara, California, last week. "It's the first time we have seen anything like this around a star similar to our Sun. In addition, we were amazed to see a bright spot in the ring, which may be dust trapped in orbit around a planet."



SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

bombarded by comets and other debris." In the past two years, about a dozen planets have been identified around distant stars, but few are candidates for life. They are gas giants, huge planets like Jupiter which could never support life. Their existence has been inferred from the wobble they impart to the motion of the star around which they orbit. This discovery looks much more like the solar system, albeit at a very early stage of development. Epsilon Eridani, which is visible to the naked eye in the constellation Eridanus, is probably only 500 million to one billion years old, compared with the Sun's 4.5 billion years. Professor Benjamin Zuckerman of the University of California at Los Angeles said: "If an astronomer could have seen what our solar system looked like four billion years ago, it would have been very much as Epsilon Eridani looks today." At that time, the infant planets were subject to a great bombardment of meteorites, and life on Earth had not started to develop. As the planets swept up the dust and debris, they began to clear a region around the star, and that is what is seen around Epsilon Eridani today. A bright spot visible in the dust ring could be a planet "stirring up dust in the ring and causing the bright spot", says Dr Bill Dent of the Royal Observatory in Edinburgh. "Or it could be the remnants of a massive collision between comets."

Fusion is put under pressure

AN international agreement to develop a prototype fusion reactor the size of a 13-storey building has been put in doubt by opposition in the US Congress. ITER, the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor, is an \$11 billion project involving the EU, Japan, Russia and the US. The current agreement, covering engineering design, expires this month and a three-year extension was due to be signed in Vienna on July 22. Now the US Department of Energy is getting cold feet, under the influence of the science committee of the House of Representatives. NucNet, a news service of the European Nuclear Society, reports that the Speaker of the Russian Parliament has written to the House Speaker, Newt Gingrich, giving warning that if this extension is not signed, work on ITER will stop. "That would end a 40-year struggle to make fusion a practical source of power — or force scientists to explore new approaches that might lead to smaller, less expensive machines. One alternative, nicknamed "ITER Light", would come in at a mere \$5 billion.

Capturing the missing particle

THE Universe is made of 12 elementary particles, physicists believe — but so far they have spotted only 11 of them. Now researchers at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, Illinois, think they have seen the missing particle, the tau neutrino. Three of these elusive particles, which pass through the Earth in billions every second, have left their ghostly fingerprints in an experiment which involves smashing a stream of protons into a tungsten target. Fewer than one collision in 10,000 ought to produce a tau neutrino, which would be detected in a stack of silver bromide-coated sheets. As the neutrinos go through the sheets, the very occasional direct hit on an atom would produce a tau particle, which would leave a millimetre-long track. So far, three such tracks have been found; another seven would make the statistics truly convincing. "Everybody believes there is a tau neutrino," Dr Hywel White of the Los Alamos National Laboratory told the Web news service *Science Now*. "But you have to have experimental proof of it."

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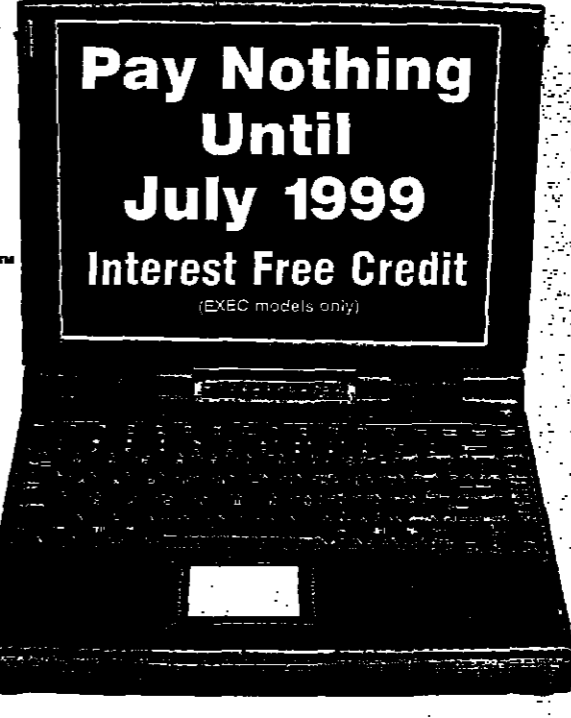
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Hot summer wrapping



Left: Turquoise cashmere cardigan, £234, by Christa Davies, from Koh Samui, 85 Monmouth Street, WC2 (0171-240 4280). Turquoise leaf skirt, £196, by Christa Davies, available from The Cross. Turquoise flower necklace, £30, by Eric Lydie at Erickson Beamon. Right: Cream sequin embroidered spaghetti strap dress, £500, and black embroidered wrap, £375, by Jemima Khan from The Cross



Left: chunky cream cable-knit coat cardigan, £265 by Joseph, 77 Fulham Road SW3 (0171-590 6200). Right: Beige silk long lace-trim dress, £350 by Dosa; cream chiffon-lined cardigan, £350 by Wilson Estelle. Both available from The Cross, 141 Portland Road, W11 (0171-727 6760). Shell necklace, £120 by Erickson Beamon, 38 Elizabeth Street, SW1 (0171-259 0202)



Pale blue lace dress, £173; with pale blue wool cardigan, £197, both by Artwork (0171-403 6332). Cream knit shoulder bag, £45 by Joseph



The latest fashion offensive is exquisite knitwear, says Style Editor Grace Bradberry

To be truly fashionable requires a competitive edge as sharp as a Manolo Blahnik stiletto. It is more than just dressing to impress, it is dressing to make everyone else feel inferior. It can require bravery (have you any idea what Anna Wintour has gone through to make fur fashionable again?) yet it is, by and large, a covert war.

Who but the initiated would realise that a fluffy, embroidered shawl could constitute a style hand grenade? Or that a tiny cashmere sweater could represent a new offensive? Forget handbag wars — knitwear is the new battlefield, even in the middle of summer.

Particularly in the middle of summer, in fact. The type of competition we are talking about takes place principally in the evenings, dining with friends on their chilly patios, swanking it at Ghyndeburne or the local concert in the park, playing oneupmanship on holiday. On virtually all these occasions, you will end up wearing a pullover — though you should never call it that.

The biggest craze of the winter was for pashminas — light shawls woven from fine wool combed from a Himalayan mountain goat. There was, briefly, a fresh object of desire — the shahtoosh, which was even finer than the pashmina. Then it transpired that this involved slaying a rare Tibetan antelope.

Had knitwear snobbery stalled? Not a bit of it, though the mether regions of mountain herds are safe for the moment. If you do not yet possess a pashmina, and you have £1,000 or so to spare, you can do no better than to invest in a shawl from Madeleine Trehearne & Harpal Bar. While most pashminas owned by the fashion pack are plain, these are hand-embroidered and take a year to make. In a reversal of Western gender roles, the women tend the herds while the men spin, weave and embroider.

Pashminas also serve to make cashmere sweaters seem

less extravagant. One of the hottest names at the moment is that of Christa Davies, who started out selling "updated" vintage clothing at Portobello Market but is now stocked by stores such as Saks in New York and Fred Siegal in Los Angeles. She has said she works from "a fine-art point of view, not a fashion one" and her quirky "pieces" have acquired the cult status that Voyage enjoyed a year ago.

The newest name to look out for, however, is that of Wilson Estelle (Ann Wilson and Maggie Estella Smith). Their design aims may be less highfalutin', but their pedigrees are impressive. Both 32, they met while students at Brighton Polytechnic, as it then was. They went on to form their own design consultancy, Yellow Minnow, working for Donna Karan, Calvin Klein, Marc Jacobs and Chloe, among others.

Later this month their first own-label collection reaches shops such as A La Mode and The Cross. "People have been telling us for ages that we should do our own thing," says Wilson. "We'd always felt appreciated by the designers we worked for, but it was odd to put our labels on things and suddenly be getting attention."

The collection has a very feminine feel. "Every single piece is beautiful," says Josephine Turner, the owner of A La Mode in Knightsbridge. "I can't think of a palpable definition of the style, but there's something different about it — it's not just another nicely shaped cashmere sweater, in a nice colour, with nice embroidery."

Finally, you can now wear the label Jemima Khan. The former "it" girl, now the wife of Imran Khan, has delighted SW3 by launching a small range of hand-embroidered bias-cut dresses, skirts and tie-front cardigans, made from Chinese silks and embroidered in Pakistan by 300 women in mud huts. Every cardigan tells a story...



Pale pink slip dress with cranberry lace trim, £95 by Whistles (0171-487 4484). Purple embroidered cashmere pashmina, £875 from Madeleine Trehearne (0171-435 6310).

PHOTOGRAPHER: Alex Sarginson. Stylist: Deborah Brett. Hair: Dabbie Horgan for Jo Hansford (0171-495 7774). Make-up: Denise Lilley at The Wax. Model: Roxanda at Storm. Shot on location at The Whitstable Oyster Fishery Company (01227 276856)

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What they really, really want

With a 15-year-old at the top of the charts, advertising and marketing chiefs are waking up to the financial potency of teenage girls. Lucy Hawking reports on the march of the tween generation

We have had girl power and now we have Billie Piper, the 15-year-old from Swindon who has been catapulted to No 1 with her anthem, *Because We Want To*. This is no fluke. The teenagers who have elevated Billie Piper to icon status recognise a peer who is on message. They, too, know precisely what they want and, as marketing people recognise, this makes them a potent new force. The tweens, as they are known, scream spending power.



Tween queen: Billie Piper, 15

das and Reebok are also acceptable for the shoe-aware tween, with Kappa trainers for the fashion victim. And the big no? "HITec," says Lizzie Colville, a 13-year-old London schoolgirl, without a moment's hesitation. Wearing the same clothing or trainer label as their friends stands as a statement. "It's a gang thing," says Lizzie. "They all have a brand. If they are mates, then they all wear the same one."

A survey by Emap, publishers of *Bliss* and other teen magazines, shows that children of this age are fighting to establish an identity, usually within the new and larger environment of secondary school. They use the easily recognisable tag of similar dress to make the friend/foe distinction and to forge a group identity. "You see it every year," sighs a tween teacher. "The girls in different groups have their own symbols and their own way of making themselves look different from other age groups around them."

The funny thing is that each year they do exactly the same as the year before them did. But no teenager believes that they are subscribing slavishly to fashion or to what their peers are wearing. "We don't all just go round in clans. We have individual style and we have our own opinions," says Lizzie.

Many parents with teenage children will recognise the truth of that last comment. While adolescents have always been famously determined, in the last few years young girls have had a surge of super confidence. Although most teenage girls actually prefer the girl band All Saints, the Spice Girls and their parading girl power have had a huge influence.

They sashayed on to the scene at a time when boy bands ruled the roost and they thrust the male five-omes. Take that, firmly out of the limelight. Post-Spice, girlie bands are everywhere. "The Spice Girls generated a feeling of empowerment, they gave girls an extra platform to shout it from," says Coole.

Girl power may have been the shout, but to the advertisers it screamed spending power. Always on the lookout for untapped markets, they realised that here they had headstrong and label-led shoppers. From the Spice Girls on Cadbury's chocolate bars to Leonardo DiCaprio on the front of a magazine, the tweens proved that they had the power to shift things off the shelves.

With *Bliss* carrying its first designer advert — for Ralph Lauren's Polo Sport Woman fragrance — other teen magazines are bound to follow suit. And not just for perfumes and shower gels either.

Research in the United States has shown that teenage girls are instrumental in deciding the contents of the family's shopping trolley. This has prompted giants such as Coca-Cola and a brand of American cooking oil to increase their spending on advertising in teenage magazines, in the hope of reaching beyond them to their parents as well. It seems a strange irony that while teenage girls now insist on shopping for clothes without their mothers' guidance, they similarly demand to supervise their mothers' shopping in the supermarket.

This mass loyalty to a certain brand or person is the tween market's great lure for advertisers and promoters. The flipside is the duration of the fascination, which is usually short-lived. In the world of fashion, where manufacturers constantly promote changing fads, this is hardly a problem.

Trickier is the life of the tween idol, someone shot to fame by the intense admiration of teenage girls, who risks losing his or her appeal with age. While Madonna, once worshipped by prepubescent everywhere, has successfully transmuted enough times to broaden her appeal, others may not be so lucky. The amazing triumph of the film *Titanic* is thought in part to be due to its tween audience who bolstered box-office takings by seeing it not just once or twice but six or eight times.

The film's star, Leonardo DiCaprio, became what psychologists call an "unattainable love interest" for millions of young girls. The term describes that young girl who will fixate on someone they have no chance of meeting and subconsciously use that person as a way to develop their emerging feelings. But they will soon grow up and forget about all him, and what will happen to Leonardo then?



Lisa Laylor, 15, from North London: "I get £100 a month allowance. It's average among my friends."

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WHAT THE TWEENS HAVE TO SAY

LISA LAYLOR is 15. She lives in North London. I get an allowance of £100 a month. It may sound a lot, but I have to buy everything. Clothes, shoes, toiletries, and friends' birthday presents. It's about average among my friends. I wear Nike trainers, and I like some of their tracksuit bottoms. Nike would have to be my favourite sport label. I am interested in music, but not as much as clothes. I like the Back Street Boys and I went to see U2 recently, although I don't really like them. My Dad listens to them! I prefer party music. I also spend money horse riding. I go once a week, not to compete, but for fun. I do not have a horse of my own but I would love one. I probably go to the cinema once a month. My favourite films are comedies. Films have to make me laugh.

STEPHANIE LAYLOR (Lisa's younger sister) is 13. I get an allowance of £50 a month; I don't have to do any work for it, but I have to buy everything from clothes to entertainment. I usually spend it on jeans and jumpers, going to the cinema or on CDs. Clothes are not really important, but I do like to look nice. My favourite item would have to be a pair of navy blue Levi's. My parents and I never argue about clothes, perhaps because I only go shopping with my friends. I don't have a favourite shop, but I just adore shopping centres. I wear Nike trainers, and I like some of their tracksuit bottoms. Nike would have to be my favourite sport label. I am interested in music, but not as much as clothes. I like the Back Street Boys and I went to see U2 recently, although I don't really like them. My Dad listens to them! I prefer party music. I also spend money horse riding. I go once a week, not to compete, but for fun. I do not have a horse of my own but I would love one. I probably go to the cinema once a month. My favourite films are comedies. Films have to make me laugh.

ALICE FAULKNER is 12 and lives in Reading. I have an allowance of £8 a month, and I don't have to do any chores for it. Mostly I spend it on clothes and little things like hair clips and make-up. My favourite shops are Tammy Girl, Miss Selfridge and Mark One. I usually shop with friends. I save up for big things rather than buying trivial things that I don't really want. The most expensive thing that I have ever bought is probably my radio, which cost £25. Clothes are important to me because I want to look nice, and I don't want to look the same all the time. I don't think designer labels are important. My trainers are Nike. I buy tapes because they are cheaper and I don't have my own CD player. I like all sorts of music and I often listen to the radio. I buy the magazine *Shout* and occasionally *Mix*. I own quite a lot of make-up, but I don't get much opportunity to wear it. I am not fussy about what I eat, although I like Kellogg's cornflakes as opposed to any old ones. I absolutely hate the Spice Girls, but I do like sport.

SAM MOSELY is 13 and lives in Winchester. My allowance is £10 a month; I don't have to do anything for it, but I do help out at home. My Mum and Dad buy me magazines. I spend some of my allowance on sweets and things, but I spend most of it on my main hobby, buying and painting toy models. My Mum and Dad give me money for clothes, but I buy them. I like to shop in sports shops. I like Adidas and Nike. My trainers are British Knight, but they are really old and I would like Adidas ones. My favourite thing is an alien poster, which is on my wall. I hate the Spice Girls. I don't think that designer labels are important. I have some Levi's, but I did not buy them because they were designer labels, but because I liked them. I don't really care what I look like. I certainly don't stand in front of the mirror or anything funny like that. The music I listen to is either indie, pop or rock.



Sam Mosely loves soccer

My favourite bands are Oasis and Blur. I have lots of their CDs. I have a CD player and access to the family computer. My sister is 16 and I like the clothes she wears. My brother is eight. I play a lot of sport, particularly football.

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Camilla's place in the Sun

For 20 years the other man in Mrs Parker Bowles's life was the former Editor of *The Sun*, says Bill Frost



Friends Stuart Higgins and Camilla Parker Bowles

Necessity can forge the strangest alliances; perhaps none more startling than the long and mutually beneficial link between Camilla Parker Bowles, the Prince of Wales's lover, and Stuart Higgins, the former Editor of *The Sun*. They recognised each other's potential over a kitchen table in Wiltshire 20 years ago. He was a doorstepping district reporter with a good nose for a story and she was a woman with a royal secret. The relationship grew and prospered after she asked him into her home for a cup of tea. Higgins, one of Fleet Street's most accomplished charmers, knew instinctively that the hours spent outside in the cold had been worth it and that an editor's chair was available if his intuition paid off and he proved that the Prince of Wales had a married lover. So he cultivated his prime source. That initial Aga-side chat bore rich fruit, bringing Higgins, who did indeed go on to become an editor, of *The Sun* (a post he resigned last month), many front page scoops and culminating in an article by him in yesterday's *Sunday Times*. The piece revealed that the meeting between Mrs Parker Bowles and

longstanding affair gathers momentum. According to her long-time confidante, she initially "freaked out" at the prospect of meeting William at St James's Palace, where she was staying with Prince Charles. She wanted to cut short her regular weekly visit but Prince Charles "put his foot down". The Prince insisted: "Let me just tell him... We can't go on like this. I will just see what he says." By contrast, William apparently agreed to a meeting, the first of three, without any anxiety. He had already signalled his willingness to see Mrs Parker Bowles in a conversation with Tiggly Legge-Bourke, the royal nanny. Meanwhile, the Queen, too, had put pressure on Prince Charles to arrange a meeting, says Mr Higgins. "Her advice was delivered through an unknown intermediary — a familiar route concerning such personal matters when relations between Queen and heir are at their coolest. She let it be known the meeting 'needed to happen'."

Direct contact between Mr Higgins and Mrs Parker Bowles broke off a year ago. However, he still remains the only person outside her tightly knit circle to have her home and mobile telephone numbers. There is plainly warmth and trust between the two — they exchange letters and Christmas cards. He describes her as an uncomplicated, down-to-earth person, who loves her garden and continues to smoke Marlboro.

He says she is the "perfect foil to the Prince's eccentricity". However, the pair's differences are considerable. "She is capable of raucous laughter at a disgusting joke. She is untidy and disorganised. The Prince struggles with his humour, but is impeccably tidy and is organised to an excruciating extent."

Mr Higgins said yesterday that his relationship with Mrs Parker Bowles was "still OK". He had heard nothing from her in the wake of his latest exclusive.

Such modesty cuts little ice with Fleet Street rivals who have been spitting feathers for years over his hotline to Mrs Parker Bowles. They have all too often been forced to follow *The Sun*'s royal splash. Among other Mr Higgins's exclusives and there have been many — were the Charles and Diana divorce date and the Princess's loss of the HRH tag.

"You have to take your hat off to Higgy," said one royal raptack rival last night. "While the rest of us were writing love's young dream, with Diana playing the female lead, he knew there was something between Charles and Camilla. He comes across like Del Boy but he is probably the smartest and most intuitive reporter of us all. The smile and the banter cover a brain as sharp as a cut-throat razor."

BRITAIN LOOKS FORWARD TO THE GLORY DAYS

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The Times on Friday

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OPINION

THE TIMES ARTS

OPERA

Paul Daniel on ENO's survival plan

FACING PAGE



OPERA: Richard Me...
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And some thrust greatness away from them

It is impossible for anyone alive today in this country to announce as a project "the great British novel". It has already been written. The same with the great British painting. Or invention. Or discovery. Or anything very much. Greatness lies firmly behind us. To have a past as outstanding as ours is to be blessed and cursed, enriched and diminished. Yes, there are contenders here and there and, yes, work of the highest quality is still being done, but something in us believes that the peaks are behind us.

Perhaps it does not matter. To care too much about competing with the past could be a moribund as well as an utterly pointless preoccupation, a form of retrospective jealousy. Yet it does, I think, run under our culture, threatening to become a fault.

You feel it most clearly when experiencing its opposite. In America, still, writers do set out to write "the great American novel"; painters seek to define indelibly The Ur-American Experience in a way which will see off all rivals. In Canada too and, from my experi-

ence, most zealously of all in Australia, there is the push to be the one who truly becomes the voice of the country. In the end, the work achieved may be no better than it would have been without such an ambition, although energy comes from the most unexpected quarters. But there is something there which is absent here — and the word "liberating" comes to mind.

It is often as difficult to discover what depresses a culture as it is to discover what depresses an individual. Britain, and England in particular, is agreed to be on the couch at the moment. Why does this pall of dismay descend so often over a country which by international standards is rich, successful and talented? Why do we seek our scabs to scratch? Why is bad news about ourselves often the news we most want to hear? Why does the shortcut to becoming a laughing stock lie in the uttering

of such sentences as "by international standards it is so rich, successful and talented"? Perhaps we suffer from overmighty parents. How can we live up to them? Look on their works, contemporaries, and despair. However much we may believe we are not in competition there must surely be an element of that. Not in every field, of course. You could plausibly argue that performers — across the spectrum — are better now than they were back then. Faster, more dextrous, wider ranging, more accomplished — depending on the area in question.

You can also argue that material conditions of life are far better and far more available than at any time in our history. Education is more widespread and so is comfortable living. We live longer and can kill pain more effectively and so on. In that sense, the past can be seen as a long preparation for a



much better present. But that by no means fully answers the question. There is also the past, which is not launching us into the future but entangling us in its antiquity with all the dreadful power of a drowning man clamping his rescuer. In an age in which increas-

ingly what is new is what will enable us to live well, there is a dark suspicion of that new in this country, or at any rate a lack of interest in it which will be disabling for future generations.

It is the reluctance to take on the new, for instance, which has been one reason why so many of our cities and towns have been vandalised by bureaucrats and planners over the past two generations. It makes you weep to revisit cities and towns which not so long ago were a pleasure to the eye, a fillip to the spirit, and find them suddenly scythed down for motorways, scooped out for car parks and emptied of inhabitants now stranded in estates on the margins of much of what makes life worth living.

To be fair, as well as revealing an ignorance of what the new can bring, the official vandalism also reveals an equally damaging ignorance of what value the old has.

The push into a bold future has too often been done with contempt for the past and the future equally. In brief, the bleak shambles of so many of our cities and towns and even villages is the clearest proof, it seems to me, of our dithering attitude to the past and the future. It is a testament to our inability to bring them together. We seem uneasy with the one and uncertain about how to cope with the other.

All of which comes down to confidence. I think. In one of John Berger's books a character, talking about painting, says that the difference between a good artist — of whom there are many — and a great artist — of whom there are very few — comes down to confidence.

I agree with that. More than 50 years on from a military victory in which we can claim a key and glorious part, despite many improvements and enhancements in

our society, there seems little confidence about ourselves. In my opinion this is because the past is too much with us. We pant and fall in its wake.

It may be that the problem is more to do with structures than individuals. Just as we had to face up to losing a territorial empire, so now we have to face up to ridding ourselves of the institutional empire that grew on its back. Indeed, it could be that through institutional reform and constitutional reform new energies will be released. We may see that soon in Scotland, hopefully in Northern Ireland, in Wales, in London and in other cities when they are able to claim their own elected mayors. This could well stimulate a different, more local, more coherent sense of identity.

This is the last of my regular columns here. It's a time of change and a time for me and a useful time to clear the decks. I've greatly enjoyed the company I've kept and many thanks to those of you who have written in or commented on what I've had to say.

Simon Bent's *Goldhawk Road*, which the Bush staged in 1996, struck me as one of the liveliest contributions to our then (and still) burgeoning Theatre of Urban Ennui. Insofar as there was a story — and, like many other twenty-something and thirtyish British dramatists today, Bent is stronger on character than plot — it involved a hypochondriac charabanc driver and porn-mag fancier who had summoned his long-neglected sons to his supposed deathbed. It was packed with hilarious observation and weird throw-away lines: "If you stand long enough under a pylon you get leukaemia" and so on. Blend Jonson's *Volpone* with Chekhov's *Cherry Orchard*, transpose the result to the world of Pinter's *Homecoming*, and you get the idea.

It seems unfair to say that Bent's *Sugar Sugar* is a little disappointing by comparison. Had it been written by any of several dramatists I could name, we would be acclaiming it as a great advance, given the fun it generates. When a dot called Steven assayed some

Looking for coherence

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on *Sugar Sugar*, Simon Bent's character-driven new play at the Bush

drunken juggling with eggs, ended up with yolk running down his face, and then went off to propose to his ex-girlfriend with the shell sticking to his drying, matted hair. I feared a woman in the audience might tumble down the Bush's tiers of seats and break her neck on Jess Curtis's tacky-parlour set, she was so hysterical with — what? The carthartic laughter, perhaps, of someone who had endured a zillion goofy men with hair like burnt omelettes.

Actually, both Steven and

Shirley, his ex-pal, had bit parts in *Bad Company*, the play that gave Bent his Bush debut in 1994. That was set in Scarborough and, also in wry, joshing style, showed teenagers running gormlessly amok amid the amusement arcades. *Sugar Sugar* supposedly occurs in the same town some years later, but the time is confusing, since the nastiest of several notably unappealing characters can talk as if Margaret Thatcher is still PM and yet support ("that theatre's bled this town dry") Scarborough

council's recent plan to divert money from Alan Ayckbourn's playhouse to the pub-lic-loo budget.

Now Nicolas Tennant's Steven, still the amiable nerd, is driving a minicab, reading girlie mags and, without quite knowing why, visiting gay pubs. Deborah McAndrew's Shirley, a nightclub barmaid, is having a desultory affair with a married man, to the impotent indignation of her mum, Sue Johnston's Val, who is maybe too much a replica of dim, sad Meg in Pinter's

Birthday Party. She, too, runs a doleful guesthouse; she too talks in dotty banalities ("I always sleep better knowing it's clean under my bed; you don't get worms that way"); she, too, takes a mildly erotic interest in a mysterious lodger, here a handsome, sickly and maybe mad ecology freak played by Jonny Phillips.

Add Andrew Lincoln as Val's slick yet insecure son Joe, who yearns to kill his unfaithful wife and has unexplained criminal connections; throw in Edward Peel as her mean, xenophobic brother, whose hobby is watching TV with the sound off; and you've a clutch of diverting characters, but still not a plot, a theme or, as far as I could see, a meaning.

Yet why quarrel with what may be the point of Paul Miller's excellently acted production? These people row, profess emotions they do not feel, spout lots of inadvertently comical nonsense, and exude confusion and failure. Are they really capable of shaping their scattered existences into a plot? Does Bent see anything in his chaotic Scarborough as coherent as a meaning? No.



Acting honours: Nicolas Tennant as Steven, and Deborah McAndrew as Shirley

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CHANGING TIMES

A gas by any name

EVERY pop semester sees a handful of students who seem to be doing everything right, but mysteriously fail to achieve the expected grades. This term's conundrum are Ether, a trio from South Wales who over the past year have squandered away enough nutritious singles to stock a midnight feast in the dorm. Ether's first album, *Strange*, was released last week and, in the current cut-throat climate, its muted reception might easily precede a Dear John note from their record company.

One hopes Parlophone will exercise patience, especially as the band's show at London's

POP

Borderline last Thursday showed them to be what we always need: tight, melodic tunesmiths designed to remind rock's navel-gazers that it is still legal to have a bit of fun in this racket.

Their tune-carrier and chief scribe, Rory Meredith, has the visual appeal of a less brassy Robbie Williams, and his unusually high vocal pitch, which almost sounds helium-assisted at times on record, gives Ether another distinctive edge. It may sound a stark omission, but in singalongs like *Best Friend*, *If You Really Want To Know* and *He Say Yeah* they have everything except a large buying public.

Live, the guitar-bass-drums configuration was well augmented by keyboards which walked an adroit line between the bluesy shake of the young Steve Winwood and the fun-for-all-the-family feel of a fair-ground organ.

Their most recent single, *Best Friend*, was another piece of bubblegum that went regrettably underchewed, while the album track *I Love Her Anyway* was more measured and romantic. For *Without You* they took the hinges off and freaked out, then, in the tradition of singles bands who reveal a darker side on stage, the word "progressive" hung over us on two experimental encore songs.

PAUL SEXTON

All the fun of the Fifties

JAZZ

Of all the group of postwar poets, novelists and playwrights who harboured a passionate affection for jazz, the writer who has most consistently woven the music into his work is Alan Plater. His Beiderbecke trilogy was the prelude to teaming him with trumpeter Kenny Baker in Solihull's Library Theatre as part of the Birmingham International Jazz Festival for an evening that interspersed hard-swinging mainstream jazz with Plater's hilarious reminiscences, "some of them autobiographical, some of them true".

The world conjured up in Plater's prose is 1950s Hull. It is a world of Woodbines, junk shops crammed with redundant musical instruments, queues at the Labour Exchange, front rooms with silent pianos, and above all the vibrant jazz of Kenny Baker's Half Dozen on the wireless. The Light Programme gave Plater a glimpse beyond Hull's dusty streets and twopenny bus rides of a different, brightly lit and ration-free world of speakeasies, dime-a-dance halls and glamorous soloists.

Now, as then, Kenny Baker and his six-piece band brought that transatlantic world to life. His own playing, with its effortless high register, was as accomplished as at any time in the past half-century, while his band provided perfect support. Alan Barnes, his face a contorted caricature of concen-

while Brian Dee demonstrated at the piano the limitations of not knowing the middle section of a song.

Plater's tales of phony acrobats and escapologists were riotously funny. The band joined in the glee at his deadpan descriptions, while the audience shared Plater's admiration for the band and the 1950s jazz world they brought vividly to life.

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OPERA: Richard Me...
The m...

THEATRES

ALDOUS HUXLEY'S 'MORROW AND AFTERNOON'...
THE MUSICAL 'PETER PAN'...
THE MUSICAL 'THE MICKENBURY'...
THE MUSICAL 'THE WINDS OF WAR'...
THE MUSICAL 'THE WINDS OF WAR'...
THE MUSICAL 'THE WINDS OF WAR'...

ONE CHECK OF A SHOW!

Edward Theatre

سكزا من الأصل

OPERA: Richard Morrison meets Paul Daniel, the conductor who has led ENO's fight for survival

The maestro with a mission

If the past 18 months at the Royal Opera House have resembled an anarchic civil war...

Credit for ENO's survival goes to this unlikely warrior

theatre near Tower Bridge. Within three weeks of Daniel's arrival, Dennis Marks resigned as ENO's boss...



Gangly and boyish, perhaps, but Paul Daniel has proved to be a tough fighter in the jungle warfare of arts politics

he says. "We've not been allowed to gaze at our navels. We've had to proclaim our achievements...

Daniel has cemented his conducting reputation with some sizzling readings. Nicholas Payne has defected from Covent Garden to fill the gap left by Marks's departure...

vision than opera companies have hitherto demonstrated - though he believes the way forward is through documentaries rather than "14-inch versions of grand opera"...

down. The fabric is in a terrible state. But, even if they closed ENO tomorrow, someone would have to look after it. It's also built on a skewed axis...

strange happened. Covent Garden found that its ability to raise funds disappeared. By contrast, we actually started an appeal that had a huge response...

He wants to foster a much more enlightened attitude to television

"flexibility is the key to the future". Tell that to the unions. And yes, ENO is a vital part of London life, as much because of its education and outreach work...

Far from glorious obsession

The British choreographer Jonathan Burrows has just been appointed choreographer-in-residence at the South Bank...

DANCE As it is Queen Elizabeth Hall

while sitting on the floor throughout. It lasts 14 gruelling minutes. What Miller offered was even more cynical...

This week in THE TIMES



TREVOR NUNN brings the blockbuster Oklahoma! to the National



ANDREW DAVIS launches the Proms with Berlioz's The Damnation of Faust



HERBIE HANCOCK improvises at the Barbican



Buddy Guy plays the Festival Hall, Sunday

There are two mysteries attached to the first UK staging of Beatrix Cenci...

A premiere almost 50 years late

had established himself as a successful opera composer in Germany before fleeing the Nazis in 1935...

Beatrice Cenci Spitafields Market Opera, E1

shape, underpinning a scene with musical substance (there's a nice equivalent to Verdi's King-versus-Grand Inquisitor confrontation)...

aimed at earning réclame rather than serving the interests of their charges. Still, it would be nice to know more about the singers...

aimed at earning réclame rather than serving the interests of their charges. Still, it would be nice to know more about the singers...

aimed at earning réclame rather than serving the interests of their charges. Still, it would be nice to know more about the singers...

OPERA & BALLET THEATRES

THEATRES

THEATRES

THEATRES

THEATRES

THEATRES

THEATRES

THEATRES

ONE HECK OF A SHOW!

THEATRE EXPERIENCE

NEWS

Orangemen reconsider protest

The Orange Order leadership was on the verge of abandoning the Drumcree stand-off last night after eight days of escalating violence culminated in the horrific murders of three young brothers early yesterday.

Robert Sauters, the Grand Master, was meeting Orangemen in Portadown last night and was understood to be strongly recommending that they end a protest that has spiralled out of control.

Poll humiliates Hashimoto

The world's second largest economy heads into a new period of instability after Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party suffered humiliation in yesterday's Upper House election.

Stop-start summer

The absent British summer resulted in the British Grand Prix having to be effectively re-started helping Michael Schumacher to sidd to victory in a race he had been losing.

School demolition

A London school faces demolition after its governors, whose chairman is Jack Straw approved a project that involves housing being built on the site with the help of private finance.

Yard sickness check

Police officers suspected of malingering will automatically lose any chance of promotion or a transfer to a new job under moves to cut Scotland Yard's £72 million-a-year sick pay bill.

Historic election

History will be made today when a woman is elected to a leading position in the Law Society of England and Wales for the first time.

Somme remembers

Four British soldiers who survived behind enemy lines in the First World War before being shot as spies have been honoured in a Somme village.

Traffic jam penalties

Cash penalties are to be imposed on road-builders when traffic is blocked for more than 30 minutes after an accident on some of Britain's busiest roads.

Forgers face butterfly banknote

Banknotes that resemble the wings of a red admiral or a silver-spotted skipper are being developed by scientists to combat forgery.

Veterans join inquiry

Three former Scotland Yard detectives have come out of retirement to investigate the suspected murder of a colleague who disappeared on a six-month gambling trip to Las Vegas.

DIY opera house

An opera theatre, created by a music buff as a hobby in his back garden, is attracting established international stars who want to sing in the open air of the Peak District.

Using the imagination

William Hague, the Conservative leader, has chosen The Imagination Gallery, a temple of Cool Britannia, for the launch of his "Listening to Britain" quest for new policies.

Russian retaliation

President Yeltsin activated his "nuclear briefcase" for a retaliatory attack against the West in 1995, according to a television documentary.

Panic grips Pakistan

Just six weeks after conducting nuclear test explosions, Pakistan faces the worst economic crisis in its history as sanctions start to bite.

Clinton 'ready to lie'

A New York publicist said that she has heard a recording that shows that Monica Lewinsky and President Clinton were prepared to lie under oath.



Walkers endure a wet and windy Bournemouth beach. Forecasters say the weather will remain cooler than the seasonal average

BUSINESS

Mining jobs: John Prescott will today lend his backing to a scheme to create 50,000 jobs in mining communities that have suffered pit closures.

Growing support: Monsanto, the American company that has clashed with the Prince of Wales, is seeking the support of Third World leaders for its campaign in defence of genetically-engineered crops.

Low confidence: Business confidence has slumped to its lowest level for five years.

Database battle: The new computer database for all National Insurance records goes on line today, sparking a battle for the £200 million-a-year contract to run the system.

FEATURES

Silent spring 2020: Genetically altered plants could wreak environmental havoc. Nick Nuttall, environment correspondent, on a technology that could be around for thousands of years.

Hot summer wrapping: The latest fashion offensive, even in the summer, is exquisite knitwear, says Grace Bradberry. Style Editor.

Girl power: With a 15-year-old at the top of the charts, advertising and marketing chiefs are waking up to the financial potency of teenage girls. Lucy Hawking reports on the march of the tween generation.

Liquid gold: When fine wine means savouring a profit. Robin Young on investing in wine.

ARTS

Melvyn Bragg: "To have a past as outstanding as ours is to be blessed and cursed. Yes, work of the highest quality is still being done, but something in us believes that the peaks are behind us."

Short on story: Simon Ben's new play at the Bush Theatre in London, Sugar Sugar, is strong on characterisation, but weak on plot.

Maestro in the firing line: Richard Morrison meets Paul Daniel, the conductor and music director who is leading English National Opera's fight for survival.

Better late than never: It has taken almost 50 years for Berthold Goldschmidt's opera Beatrice Cenci to receive its first British staging.

SPORT

Motor racing: Michael Schumacher, of Ferrari, secured victory at the British Grand Prix finished amid confusion at Silverstone.

Cricket: The last final of the Benson and Hedges Cup went into a second day because of rain before Essex lifted the trophy.

Golf: Lee Westwood announced his challenge for the Open Championship this week by winning the world invitational at Loch Lomond.

Cycling: Chris Boardman retained the leader's yellow jersey against expectations after the second day of the Tour de France.

Equestrianism: Robert Smith overcame atrocious conditions to claim the King George V Gold Cup for a third time at the Royal International Horse Show.

Rowing: Great Britain's world champion coxed four emerged triumphant in a high-class race at Lucerne Regatta.

Rugby league: Wakefield Trinity's struggle against low attendances continued as they attempt to gain entry into the JJB Super League.

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

ARTS The Tate Gallery sheds new light on a monumental sculpture by Jacob Epstein

LAW Raped and tortured: the women asylum-seekers failed by Britain



THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,842

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 28 indicating the starting positions for the clues. The grid is partially filled with black squares.

- ACROSS
1 It prevents our writings being widely distributed (11).
7 Lacking butter at first, cook in this (5).
9 Defectors studied directions without returning information (9).
10 Flat bread turned over at the end (5).
11 American term for US coin (7).
12 Pompous old canon crossing end of transport (7).
13 Put into prepared slots, as we hope our hens will be (5).
15 Incompetent about final return? It's indefensible (9).
17 As person controlling position, force took to be taken by another piece (9).
19 Dignified movement contributing to popular government (5).
20 RI actually isn't so narrow-minded (7).
22 Produced a thrill, having left stage carrying cape (7).

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,841 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20 book token.

Times Two Crossword, page 48

WEATHER

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Police 999

WEATHER BY FAX

Did 0236 followed by area number from your fax
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UK Regions 410 337
UK Towns 410 338
UK Airports 410 339

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun sets: 4:58 am
Sun sets: 9:14 pm
Moon sets: 9:27 am
Moon sets: 11:19 pm

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997

BEWARE OF UNDER COVER OPERATIONS

Cover operations are a common tactic used by fraudsters to obtain your personal details. Beware of unsolicited offers and requests for information.

FORECAST

General: NE England and central and eastern Scotland cloudy with rain, heavy at times, with a strong to gale force north-westerly wind making it feel very cold for July.

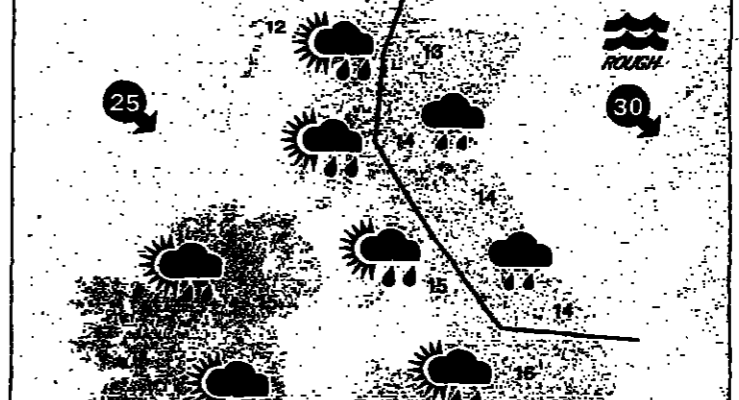
AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

Table with columns: Location, Sun, Rain, Wind, Clouds, Fog, Haze, Ice, Snow, Sleet, Hail, Max, Min.

ABROAD

Table with columns: Location, Sun, Rain, Wind, Clouds, Fog, Haze, Ice, Snow, Sleet, Hail, Max, Min.

WIND TODAY



CHANGES TO CHART BELOW FROM NOON

Low A moves slowly northeast, gradually filling. High B moves east and declines. Low C remains in situ with little change. Low D runs northeast and deepens.

SEA TIDES

Table with columns: Location, AM, HT, PM, HT, TODAY, AM, HT, PM, HT.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Coningsby, Lincolnshire, 22C (72F); lowest day temp: Tubbidge, Highland, 10C (50F); highest rainfall: Eidsdalur, Dumfriesshire & Galloway, 1.1in; highest sunrise: Stornoway, Outer Hebrides 05.00.

Advertisement for Zida, featuring a large image of a person's face and text promoting the brand. The text includes 'Zida' and 'The name of the future'.

Travel Insurance advertisement from £49.95 a year. Includes text: 'Save money on annual multiple trip cover, enrolling before 1st August 1998 and beat the rise in Insurance Premium Tax. To enrol, call quoting TWAS1. Lines are open 7 days.' and '0800 700 737'.

هكذا من الأصل

MONDAY JULY 13 1998

RADIO AND TV
Preview: The summer moved fast...
Review: More Col...
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OPINION
In the name of God, go...
All ears

World Cup overflows
Columns

PETER RIDDELL

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

DAVID MARSH

OBITUARIES

LETTERS

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SPORT TODAY

UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

Englishman sets his sights on the Open
PAGE 32

Schumacher reigns at Silverstone
PAGES 30, 31

Essex beat Leicestershire at Lords
PAGE 35

Boardman retains the yellow jersey
PAGE 33

TIME SPORT

15 PAGES

MONDAY JULY 13 1998

HOSTS MAKE FLYING START TO FINAL CHALLENGE



Zidane, whose first-half headers put France on course for the World Cup, is congratulated by Karembeu, left, and Petit after putting the hosts ahead against the holders last night. Photograph: Paulo Whitaker

Zidane's cool head sinks Brazil

Brazil 0
France 3

FROM OLIVER HOLT
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
IN ST-DENIS

THE victory that a nation had dreamt of ever since France were awarded the World Cup finals was delivered last night when two headers by Zinedine Zidane sent Brazil, the favourites and holders, on the road to unexpected defeat. A goal with the last kick by Emmanuel Petit, the Arsenal midfielder player, was the icing on the cake for the country that gave the competition to the world and had now won it for the first time.

Those team sheets were suddenly reclaimed by officials, and as replacements were handed out — this time including Ronaldo's name in large capital letters — so rumours began to circulate that there had been a fight in the Brazil dressing-room.

over the bar. The Newcastle United-bound striker worked himself free again three minutes later after clever work from Zidane and Djorkaeff, but poor control and a weak shot let him down.

headed the ball powerfully down and past Taffarel and the rest of the helpless defenders on the goaline.

but with the first half in injury time France went further ahead. This time it was a corner from the Brazil right that undid them. Djorkaeff took it and curled it into the near post, where Zidane met it unchallenged again.

unguarded goal before it was kicked clear by Desailly.

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WORLD CUP 98

Modern masters captured on canvas

Rob Hughes talks to a painter who finds inspiration in those who play the beautiful game

Is there a place for art in a game made so pragmatic one player will feign injury to deprive another of a place in the final of the World Cup? Aroldo Governatori, an Italian painter living in the South of France, believes it is not only possible to draw great artistry out of the maelstrom of football, but it is as natural as the sun giving life to flowers. "Where there is life, there is art," Governatori insists. "The stadium is like a volcano, its fire and the tension in a match has a beauty that sometimes is violent, always is vibrant."

This artist is also something of a prophet. For in a gallery in Paris, among dozens of his paintings of footballers in motion, there is one, painted two years ago, that depicts Ronaldo, of Brazil, versus a defender of France.

Moreover, there is another of Lilian Thuram, the France right back, who had then never scored a goal for his country, yet who the artist has depicted sweeping the ball towards the net. Thuram brought art to life with his two goals in the semi-final against Croatia.

It is all there, revealed by the artist's eye. His paintings have the shirt-pulling, the elbowing, the struggle of muscle and might.

Governatori, 61, paints at his isolated farmhouse close to the Pyrenees. He has never met one of the footballers who captivate his imagination, yet he feels that they are as much figures of art as those involved in ballet, music or any activity that involves rhythm and movement.

Ronaldo fascinates him. Zidane too, and Roberto Carlos of Brazil. "He [Roberto Carlos] has discipline, like in



A packed stadium has a volcanic quality according to Aroldo Governatori, an artist born in Italy who specialises in depicting his favourite footballers in action

Ballet Bégart." Discipline? The player has been admired by his veteran coach, Mario Zagallo, for his cavalier charges upfield, his lack of defensive order. Governatori shakes his head. "I am from Italy, and you know what the coaches there have done to football. It is *catenaccio*; it is football played to try to prevent the energy that is natural in some players. These trainers never make beauty, it is the players, out of their

instinct and imagination that give us the tension of the match, the appeal of movement. I am not painting these trainers..." And there is laughter bubbling up as if from a volcano.

His best paintings, certainly of football, involve two figures, the sweeping lines of movement, and the ball. His background is a splash of colour, of reds and blues, an impressionist backdrop in the manner of Van Gogh. It was

not always football that fascinated Governatori. "At five years old, I could express myself with charcoal," he said. "Even before I could really think, I was attracted to horses and it was a gift to put down on canvas the movement of the animals. I think in life, you are an instrument, and I think Ronaldo, or Cantona, have something more. It is no trainer who can give them this." Governatori draws his foot-

ball knowledge from Italy, which he left 28 years ago to find tranquillity in the South of France and to start a family. His boys played football beneath chestnut trees near Pau, and this made them exceptions in an area addicted to rugby.

As a father, he greatly enjoyed playing football with them and now, not just he insists because of the World Cup, he finds the greatest inspiration in working with

football as his focus. Yet, like many millions in France, it is a remote, second-hand experience; no tickets for the stadium for the artist. His impressions are gained through the television screen and interpreted in his mind.

"Zidane, Ronaldo, Thuram, I have never met them. Yet I feel I understand them," he said. "There are days when, as a painter, I rise and find I cannot paint. There must be days when, even without the

opponents who must always try to stop them, these players — to me they are artists — simply cannot feel their sport."

He laments that the commercial circus represses the players. But again and again he blames the coaches. "They take away the creative energy these players have," Governatori said. "The Italians, the French, they want to win without making a goal. I will never understand it."

WORLD CUP DIARY

Monaco chasing Hoddle

AS MONACO have offered Glenn Hoddle a £4 million deal to become the new manager of Monaco, where the England coach was once a player.

The vacancy is likely to occur because the Jean Tigana, the Monaco manager, is set to become the new coach of the France team. Aimé Jacquet announced that last night's final against Brazil would be his last game as the national coach.

Hoddle is in the middle of a four-year contract with the Football Association.

Ronald de Boer remains keen on joining Arsenal, despite an initial bid being turned down by his club, Ajax. The midfielder player is just one year into a six-year contract, but there is an escape clause.

De Boer said: "Arsenal have made a low bid but, of course, they are going to make a low bid. I know Arsenal are interested and I would like to play there. It's a nice club and very well organised."

Slaven Bilic has criticised Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, and Harry Redknapp, of West Ham United, who accused him of exaggerating the incident in the World Cup semi-final when Laurent Blanc, of France, was sent off after pushing the Croat. Bilic, the Everton defender, said: "I did not over-react against Blanc. You should ask him how he would have reacted. I am not a cheat."

"The bottom line is that he hit me in the face and I don't know why people are trying to make a hero out of a person who did that."

JOHN GOODBODY

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مكتبة الامن الاصل

WORLD CUP 98

Brazil made to pay ultimate price for reckless gamble on ailing striker's ability to last the course

Unfitting end to Ronaldo's great World Cup quest

ROB HUGHES



At the Stade de France

If Ronaldo, the most coveted goalscorer in the world, were a racehorse, he would surely never have been allowed to enter the arena for the greatest day of his life. The injury that he carried, and there have been three descriptions of it during the tournament, so disabled him that, in effect, his country, the most populated football nation on earth, elected to play ten-man football, not passing to him, not expecting him to be mobile, risking him.

In the world of the racing stallion, animal welfare groups would have prevented further punishment to him. Indeed, those who owned shares in his stud syndication would never have let him appear in this shape before a world audience of 1.7 billion people.

Who could credit that so valuable a footballer would be detoured en route to the stadium to visit a hospital? The latest diagnosis is that his left ankle is damaged. He had not trained properly for two days, yet just 45 minutes before the World Cup final, Brazil's doctors decided the risk, his risk, was worth taking.

It is alarming, all the more so because Internazionale, of Milan, the club that pays Ronaldo upwards of £4 million a year, were reported to have threatened that they might sue Brazil if he came home from the World Cup needing an operation that might keep him out of the first month of the Serie A championship next season.

Their concern, apparently, was that the player might be having painkilling injections into a knee. So, in the hour that a player, a country, was looking for the finest proof of ultimate talent, this 21-year-old, whose knee operations began in Eindhoven when he was 17, was expected to perform. Instead, he was the team's weakness.

France, their midfield industrious in the image of Deschamps and Petit, and augmented by their own star player, Zidane, could suppress and control the game, knowing that Zinedine ran right throughout the Brazil team because their centre

forward and talisman was wounded. Indeed, he was injured again in the first half in a fearful mid-air collision of bodies, like two express trains coming together, though it was in the upper body that Ronaldo needed further treatment.

We must ask what is happening to the world game. Ronaldo was reduced to a pace that Leboeuf was comfortable with, and the whole of Brazil was left dependent on something malfunctioning. Moreover, Roberto Carlos, who normally gives the team such joyous impetus on the left, was in doleful mood, seemingly because Mario Zagallo had severely chastised him, for being over-adventurous.

So, wound a great player in the body, curtail another one in his spirit, and Brazil is, like any other team, at the mercy of inspired, determined opposition.

One might reflect that this was testimony to the warning from Glenn Hoddle before the tournament, when all of England was in apoplexy over the omission of Paul Gascoigne, that it is more important to take fit players to the World Cup than impaired genius. Well, France had been waiting for the fulfilment of Zidane. He, especially adored around St-Denis where the Stade de France has been built, represents the immigrant popula-

tion that is obviously a minority in the country, but heavily populated the area between the Periphique, the ring road encircling Paris, and the new stadium.

There are a dozen French-Algerian cafes or bars in this area, and none who frequent them could afford the normal price of entry to the stadium, never mind the reported £2,000 that touts were receiving.

The people who identify with this balding, sometimes wonderful player, never lost the faith. And how Zidane repaid them. He was inspired, moving here, there, everywhere, a pimpernel in blue, demonstrating that when real class is fit and ready to run, it will find the edge.

Zidane found more than that, he was free at two almost identical corners to head the goals that gave France not only the opportunity to win the World Cup that their compatriot Jules Rimet invented, but to do it in the grand manner.

In the stands, three high-profile French figures were ecstatic. Jacques Chirac, the President, stood and waved a blue national team jersey above his head. He hadn't dared wear it. Nelson Mandela-style, as the team players had requested, but he draped it in front of him like washing on the line. And Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Prime Minister, also wearing a tricolour scarf on his hottest of nights, also signalled political approval. French joy in the actions of the son of immigrants.

France, indeed, has come together around this team, ignoring the Jean-Marie Le Pen right-wing sneer that it was an artificial team wearing the French colour. Artificial? The third man so happy in the tribune was Michel Platini, once the captain, undoubtedly the finest player France has fielded, and now president of the organising committee. Platini's father, Aldo, is Italian... so, though it has taken France so long to fully acknowledge it, the country that founded Fifa and founded so many of the international tournaments, now is worthy of the international game.



Ronaldo, given an all-too-rare sight of goal, is sent crashing in a determined challenge by Barthez. Photograph: Rick Bowmer

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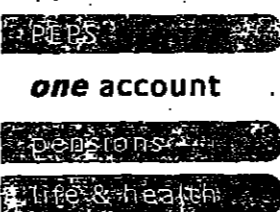
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- (c) Yeah, sure. And I'm Lord Lucan
- (d) Where do I sign?

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WORLD CUP DIARY

as

Monaco chasing Hoddle

MONACO have signed Glenn Hoddle in a deal to become the new manager of Monaco, where the England coach was once a player. The vacancy is likely to occur because the club manager, the Monaco manager, is set to become the manager of the French national team. Hoddle, who played for Monaco from 1988 to 1992, is expected to take over the club in August. He will be replacing the current manager, who is leaving to take a job in the United States. Hoddle is a former England international and has won the FA Cup with Arsenal. He is also a former manager of the England national team. He is expected to bring his experience to Monaco, which is a top club in France. He will be working with the club's owner, who is a former player of Hoddle's. Hoddle is expected to be in Monaco by the end of the month. He will be meeting with the club's board and staff. He will also be meeting with the players. He is expected to start work in August. He will be responsible for the club's performance in the league and in Europe. He will also be responsible for the club's finances. He will be working with the club's owner to ensure that the club is profitable. He will be working with the club's board to ensure that the club is successful. He will be working with the club's staff to ensure that the club is well-run. He will be working with the club's players to ensure that they are performing at their best. He will be working with the club's fans to ensure that they are happy. He will be working with the club's sponsors to ensure that they are satisfied. He will be working with the club's media to ensure that they are getting the best coverage. He will be working with the club's community to ensure that they are involved. He will be working with the club's youth team to ensure that they are developing. He will be working with the club's academy to ensure that they are producing top talent. He will be working with the club's scouts to ensure that they are finding the best players. He will be working with the club's agents to ensure that they are getting the best deals. He will be working with the club's lawyers to ensure that they are protecting the club's interests. He will be working with the club's accountants to ensure that they are keeping the books. He will be working with the club's doctors to ensure that they are keeping the players healthy. He will be working with the club's physiotherapists to ensure that they are keeping the players fit. He will be working with the club's nutritionists to ensure that they are keeping the players in good shape. He will be working with the club's psychologists to ensure that they are keeping the players mentally strong. He will be working with the club's sports scientists to ensure that they are keeping the players at the peak of their performance. He will be working with the club's sports medicine team to ensure that they are keeping the players safe. He will be working with the club's sports equipment suppliers to ensure that they are getting the best gear. He will be working with the club's sports facilities to ensure that they are in good condition. He will be working with the club's sports grounds to ensure that they are well-maintained. He will be working with the club's sports officials to ensure that they are following the rules. He will be working with the club's sports referees to ensure that they are making the right decisions. He will be working with the club's sports commentators to ensure that they are providing the best coverage. He will be working with the club's sports journalists to ensure that they are getting the best stories. He will be working with the club's sports photographers to ensure that they are getting the best pictures. 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He will be working with the club's sports presidents to ensure that they are representing the club well. He will be working with the club's sports members to ensure that they are happy. He will be working with the club's sports fans to ensure that they are passionate. He will be working with the club's sports supporters to ensure that they are loyal. He will be working with the club's sports volunteers to ensure that they are dedicated. He will be working with the club's sports staff to ensure that they are professional. He will be working with the club's sports players to ensure that they are committed. He will be working with the club's sports officials to ensure that they are fair. He will be working with the club's sports referees to ensure that they are honest. He will be working with the club's sports commentators to ensure that they are objective. He will be working with the club's sports journalists to ensure that they are accurate. He will be working with the club's sports photographers to ensure that they are truthful. He will be working with the club's sports videographers to ensure that they are honest. He will be working with the club's sports statisticians to ensure that they are precise. He will be working with the club's sports analysts to ensure that they are thorough. He will be working with the club's sports strategists to ensure that they are creative. He will be working with the club's sports tacticians to ensure that they are flexible. He will be working with the club's sports coaches to ensure that they are patient. He will be working with the club's sports managers to ensure that they are organized. He will be working with the club's sports executives to ensure that they are efficient. He will be working with the club's sports directors to ensure that they are effective. He will be working with the club's sports presidents to ensure that they are respected. He will be working with the club's sports members to ensure that they are valued. He will be working with the club's sports fans to ensure that they are loved. He will be working with the club's sports supporters to ensure that they are proud. He will be working with the club's sports volunteers to ensure that they are appreciated. He will be working with the club's sports staff to ensure that they are respected. He will be working with the club's sports players to ensure that they are valued. He will be working with the club's sports officials to ensure that they are respected. He will be working with the club's sports referees to ensure that they are respected. He will be working with the club's sports commentators to ensure that they are respected. He will be working with the club's sports journalists to ensure that they are respected. He will be working with the club's sports photographers to ensure that they are respected. 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WORLD CUP 98

Holland betrayed by lack of ruthless streak as attractive play goes unrewarded again

Croatia provide bronze mettle

Artful dodgers quick to snaffle only crumbs of comfort on offer



HOLLAND CROATIA

1 2

Zenden (21) Prost (13)
Suker (36)

(Parc des Princes, 45,500)

FROM KEVIN MCCARRA

THE third-place play-off often resembles a funeral service for the countries whose hopes of winning the World Cup expired in the semi-finals...

The significance of a game is not determined by pundits or organisers, it exists within the minds of the players. Their enthusiasm bestowed authenticity on the fixture...

At full-time, Davor Suker, whose winning goal had made him the leading scorer in the tournament, with six goals, capered with a Croatia flag fluttering from his raised arms...

Within the stadium, there had also been raucous and a bracing atmosphere developed. Every touch that Slaven Bilic made was booted...

The episode harmed the reputation of the sport, but seems to have been of benefit to the box office. On the walk to the ground, many people held up tatty scraps of cardboard with messages pleading for tickets...

Is it too soon to begin admiring Bilic once again? There was no hiding place for him at the Parc des Princes, yet he never looked as if he wished for one...

There will be no pardon for his behaviour in the semi-final, but condemnation should be spread more extensively...



Suker leads the Croatia celebrations by waving the national flag after his team's play-off triumph over Holland. Photograph: Daniel Garcia

initially heading for the left-hand side of Ladic eventually beat the goalkeeper on his right. It was handsome play and Holland did provide many of the comely passages

in the game. Blazevic was to offer honeyed words when explaining that Croatia's defensive posture was essential because victory over the team he terms "the best in the world" would otherwise have been impossible...

fulfil their ambitions at the World Cup because they lacked the ruthlessness to press home an advantage. On Saturday, Kluivert missed chances at every stage of the game...

for the second match in a row, the forward had difficulty in fastening the captain's armband that he inherits when Boban is substituted and, this time, Stam, the Holland defender, had to help him. There is little else that Suker cannot accomplish on a football pitch.

HOLLAND (3-5-2): E van der Sar (Ajax) - J Stam (Manchester United), F de Boer (Ajax), A Hamer (Feyenoord) - S Zardan (PSV Eindhoven), C Sedorf (Real Madrid), W Jonk (PSV Eindhoven), E Delsing (Lierkester), P Couco (Sarawak), sub: M Overmars, Arsenal, 46min) - D Bergkamp (Arsenal), sub: P van Hooijdonk, Nottingham Forest, 50.

CROATIA (2-6-1-1): D Ladic (Croatia Zagreb), S Bilic (Everton), I Simic (Dinamo Zagreb), Z Srdan (PSV Eindhoven), M Stanic (Parma), A Asanovic (Napoli), R Prosenicki (Croatia Zagreb), sub: G Vucelja, Vukovar, 78, K Juric (Croatia Zagreb), R Jarni (Real Betis) - Z Boban (AC Milan), sub: I Tudor, Juventus, 88 - D Suker (Real Madrid). Referee: E Gonzalez Chavez (Paraguay).



Van der Sar, the Holland goalkeeper, reflects after conceding the winning goal

Passage de la Madeleine, Paris

To say that Holland looked cheated on Saturday night would be a mild understatement. High-fat fromage saturated their weary, bearded souls to such an extent that for a minute I saw Marc Overmars quite clearly wearing one of those dainty turned-up Edam hats, with pigtails. What a life. You nearly win the World Cup, everyone says you deserved to beat Brazil in the semi-finals, and then you have to play this bizarre third-place game in the rain at the Parc des Princes, against a side that is, dammit, more determined.

If there is one good reason for winning a semi-final of the World Cup - or indeed, of going out with heads held high after the first round - it is to avoid this humiliation of publicly scrapping for crumbs. Anyone expecting a larky night, a festival of care-free football, was in for a nasty shock. It was a tight, edgy, disjointed match. No spirit of friendly co-operation prevailed. Croatia operated a dastardly system of counter-attacking, which involved occasionally yelling "surprise!" and scoring a goal.

Meanwhile, the crowd cheered with sporadic gusto, but never with quite the same enthusiasm that they reserved for booing Slaven Bilic - who can rest assured that he will never be asked to spearhead a L'Oréal campaign. Boo, hiss, the French said, the first time Bilic's name was mentioned. Boo, hiss, they said, the first time he touched the ball, likewise the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth. Sir Ian McKellen as Captain Hook could have wished for nothing more from a matinee of overexcited five-year-olds. They just wouldn't let it lie.

But he ignored them. He clearly didn't care. Laurent Blanc or no Laurent Blanc, there was no way he was going to break down in penitent sobs, or hit himself in the face with a frying pan, just to make these people happy. For some reason, he seemed to be much more interested in helping his team to win. A third-place match is probably all about pride. Having missed your place in the final and wishing you could just go home, you have to adjust your pride - up a notch, down two notches, left a smidgeon - so that you're not too proud to play in it. Which is why, in retrospect, it is obvious that Croatia had the upper hand.

Holland were stooping to play in this match, while Croatia regarded it as another opportunity to race about proving what a bunch of artful dodgers they are. And it was true. Both of Croatia's goals were nasty sneak-thief affairs leaving Van der Sar, the Holland goalkeeper, dazed on the ground, slapping his empty pockets in a state of confusion. "How did that happen?" he was left asking, while Fagin's gang raced back upfield, humming songs by Lionel Bart.

What of Holland? Well, the official match summary gives the sorry tale of their top-heavy but lightweight attacking force, which (aside from Zenden's 21st-minute goal) failed to do justice to the talent shown in the rest of the team. At eight minutes, for example, we find for Patrick Kluivert, "shot - on target - saved". At 20 minutes, for Kluivert again, "shot - on target - saved". And what's this at 32 minutes? Another Kluivert attempt, "shot - on target - saved". Kluivert doesn't appear again until 72 minutes, when it's "shot - on target - blocked". Then, finally, at 79 minutes, "shot - off target - missed".

As for Dennis Bergkamp, that famous vanishing man, he is mentioned twice for being offside, twice for handball, and once for being replaced by Pierre van Hooijdonk ("shot - off target - missed"). Which isn't very much, really, for one of the world's footballers of the world. Since Croatia got another chance to shine, and more, over got medals to wear, the match was not pointless. But a kinder Fifa would abolish it, and give everybody medals. Emotionally, it must be like being dumped by your partner on Wednesday and then instead of spending a month indoors eating marshmallows under the duvet and listening to Gilbert O'Sullivan) having to dress up on Saturday in a swimsuit and high heels for a beauty contest, in which you smile and wave and are placed last. No one should have to be this brave.

As for Bilic, the most unpopular footballer in the world, how one's respect soared for him. He played for 90 minutes and never once sank down on bended knee to beg the crowd to leave him alone for the pity's sake. I suppose the old sticks-and-stones adage attaches itself with particular force when your country is a war zone. Or if you play for Everton, come to that.



TGV

Truss's Grand Voyage

LYNNE TRUSS

Leading lights fluff their lines on the ultimate stage

Brian Glanville identifies the big-name players who have failed to live up to their reputations in the 1998 World Cup



Klinsmann: out of fuel

Which players, then, have surprised and disappointed us in this World Cup? Dennis Bergkamp, for one, despite two remarkable and memorable contributions. Both came in the same match, against Argentina. With the nearest of headers from the left, he made the goal for Patrick Kluivert that was deemed by Diego Maradona to be the best of the competition. Subsequently, Bergkamp scored what many of us would call the finest goal.

In the first instance, he beautifully controlled a 60-yard pass from Frank de Boer with his right foot. In a flowing movement left Ayala, his Argentina marker, standing and then drove the ball home. Maradona, to quote him again, thought that Ayala was the best defender in the World Cup! Bergkamp, the eternal paradox, the artist with a strange streak of malice, was also lucky not to be sent off against Yugoslavia, when he committed a grievous foul on Sinisa Mihailovic, the defender, who was forced to leave the field. It happened under the nose of the linesman, but Bergkamp escaped unpunished.

As we know, he has been suspended time and again with Arsenal. Arsene Wenger, his club manager, who has criticised him here for not getting into the penalty area often enough - Bergkamp

replies that he has changed his game in recent years, preferring to operate just behind the striker - is forever making excuses for the Dutchman. More to the point, surely, has been the opinion of a leading Dutch journalist, who thinks that Bergkamp has modelled himself on his Ajax and Holland predecessor, Marco van Basten, who, besides being a superb striker, had a reputation for looking after himself, but so subtly that he got away with it. Bergkamp does not.

He had a mediocre game against Brazil and was a negligible influence in the third-place match against Croatia; yet he will long be remembered for those two wonderful gems in the defeat of Argentina. Alessandro Del Piero was a big disappointment for Italy, compounded by the insistence of Cesare Maldini, the Italy manager, of constantly preferring him to Roberto Baggio, who was so clearly in far better form. Del Piero missed several excellent chances against

Norway, when Baggio did not even get on the field, but Del Piero was allowed to start again in the quarter-final against France. Recently, he had had an indifferent game in the European Cup final for Juventus against Real Madrid. There is no doubt of his abilities any more than there is of Bergkamp's, but he did have a bad

display; his mind may have been elsewhere. Jürgen Klinsmann, once such a star, now such a talker of a good game, evidently prevailed on Bert Vogts, Germany's besieged but enduring manager, to keep him in the team despite his failings. Klinsmann began well enough against the United States with a delightful goal and a clever assist for Oliver Bierhoff, and he characteristically snapped up the chance given him by a hapless Mexico defender, to equalise when all seemed lost.

By the time it came to the Croatia game, there was little or no fuel left in the tank and it was extraordinary that Vogts should keep Klinsmann on the field until the bitter end.

Talking of extravagance, Alex Ferguson has spilled out £10 million to acquire Jaap Stam, the Holland centre back. The player himself, a modest, balanced fellow, seemed surprised at the size of the fee and, although he had been a strong game against Brazil, watch-

ing some of his performances, the money paid for him by Manchester United seemed extortionate. Stam made several dreadful mistakes in the tournament and most were caused by his basic lack of pace. Against Mexico, he allowed Luis Hernandez to burst past him for a late equaliser. Against Yugoslavia, it was Jugovic who left him standing, causing him to pull the midfielder player back and give away a penalty that, luckily for him, was missed. In the third-place match against Croatia on Saturday, Robert Jarni outpaced him on the flank, setting up the first Croatia goal for Robert Prosenicki. Marcel Desailly, of France, has looked an infinitely better centre back and has cost Chelsea millions less. Could we call this a panic buy by Ferguson?

Roberto Carlos, of Brazil, the overlapping left back, disappointed, too; even with his once fabled free kicks. True, he can get to the goalline like a winger, but full backs are also expected to defend, and the appalling mistakes that he made against Denmark (a failed bicycle kick), and Holland (failure to mark his man), both led to goals. It was surprising that the gaggle of international experts used by MasterCard to pick the best 16 players in the tournament should include him. Then, we all know that a camel is a horse designed by a committee.

'Apart from two notable contributions in the match against Argentina, Bergkamp had a poor tournament and was very lucky not to be sent off'



Stam: overpriced

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THE 1998 WORLD CUP

THE GOLDEN BOOT

- 6: D Soker (Croatia)
- 5: G Batistuta (Argentina), C Vieri (Italy)
- 4: Ronaldo (Brazil), M Salas (Chile), L Hernández (Mexico)
- 3: Bebeto (Brazil), César Sampaio (Brazil), Rivaldo (Brazil), T Henry (France), O Bierhoff (Germany), J Klinsmann (Germany), D Bergkamp (Holland)
- 2: A Ortega (Argentina), M Wilmots (Belgium), R Prosenicki (Croatia), B Lassen (Denmark), M Oweis (England), A Shearer (England), L Thomsen (France), Z Zidane (France), E Petit (France), R de Boer (Holland), P Cocu (Holland), P Klauwert (Holland), R Baggio (Italy), T Whitmore (Morocco), R Pobez (Mexico), S Bassir (Morocco), A Hadda (Morocco), V Milevski (Romania), S Bartlett (South Africa), F Niero (Spain), Kiko (Spain), F Morientes (Spain), S Komljenovic (Yugoslavia)
- 1: H Pineda (Argentina), J Zanetti (Argentina), C López (Argentina), A Polster (Austria), I Vastic (Austria), A Herzog (Austria), L Mills (Belgium), E Kostadinov (Bulgaria), P Njanku (Cameroon), P Mbona (Cameroon), J Sierra (Chile), L Preciado (Colombia), M Stabile (Croatia), R Ianni (Croatia), G Vasic (Croatia), M Rieper (Denmark), A Nielsen (Denmark), W Landrup (Denmark), P Moller (Denmark), E Sand (Denmark), T Scholtes (England), M Jorgensen (Denmark), P Scholes (England), S Anderson (England), D Beckham (England), C Dugary (France), D Trésaguet (France), B Lizarazu (France), Y Djorkaeff (France), L Blanc (France), A Möller (Germany), M Overmars (Holland), B P van Hooijdonk (Holland), E Davids (Holland), B Zenden (Holland), R Ianni (Croatia), M Mahabirika (Iran), L di Biagio (Italy), R Earle (Jamaica), M Nakayama (Japan), A Garcia Aspe (Mexico), C Blanco (Mexico), M Hadji (Morocco), M Adeniji (Nigeria), G Lawal (Nigeria), S Olibisi (Nigeria), V Buba (Nigeria), M Oruma (Nigeria), T Babangida (Nigeria), D Eggen (Norway), H Flo (Norway), T A Flo (Norway), K Rekdal (Norway), J Ayala (Paraguay), M Benítez (Paraguay), J Cardozo (Paraguay), A Ili (Romania), D Petrescu (Romania), S Al-Jaber (Saudi Arabia), Y Al-Thayyan (Saudi Arabia), J Collins (Scotland), C Burley (Scotland), B McCarthy (South Africa), Ha Seok-Ju (South Korea), Yoo Sang-Chul (South Korea), Raul (Spain), Luis Enrique (Spain), S Souvaris (Tunisia), B McBride (United States), S Mihajlovic (Yugoslavia), P Mijatovic (Yugoslavia), D Stojkovic (Yugoslavia)

2002

NOTHING has yet been easy about the next World Cup finals, to be co-hosted in 2002 by Japan and South Korea (John Goodbody writes). Both countries, aged enemies, had applied for the event but, at the last moment, a compromise had to be worked out.

Since the decision two years ago, the economy in the Far East has slumped, although the two countries are adamant that they will hold the tournament. However, construction of the proposed main football stadium in Seoul has been put on hold. The alternatives are to increase the capacity of the 68,811-seat Olympic stadium in the capital or to expand the Munsu stadium, with a capacity of 65,000 seats west of Seoul.

Haggling is now going on to decide which nation will stage which matches and when they will take place. The one thing that is settled is that the final will be at the new stadium in Yokohama, Japan.



rate stage

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Yahoo World Cup
<http://www.yahoo.co.uk/wc98>
Sky
<http://www.sky.co.uk/worldcup>
Football 365
<http://www.football365.co.uk>

Day	Match	Score	Attendance	Stage
Sunday July 12	Brazil 0 France 3 (Zidane 27, 45; Petit 90)	75,000	FINAL	
Saturday July 11	Holland 1 (Zenden 21) Croatia 2 (Prosenicki 13; Soker 36)	45,500	THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF	
July 9 & 10	REST DAYS			
Wednesday July 8	France 2 (Thuram 47, 70) Croatia 1 (Soker 46)	76,000	SEMI-FINALS	
Tuesday July 7	Brazil 1 (Ronaldo 46) Holland 1 (Kuvert 87) (aet; Brazil win 4-2 on penalties)	54,000	SEMI-FINALS	
July 5 & 6	REST DAYS			
Saturday July 4	Holland 2 (Kuvert 12; Bergkamp 90) Argentina 1 (López 18)	55,000	QUARTER-FINALS	
Friday July 3	Germany 0 Croatia 3 (Jami 45; Vavio 80; Soker 85)	39,100	QUARTER-FINALS	
Friday July 3	Italy 0 France 0 (aet; France win 4-3 on penalties)	77,000	QUARTER-FINALS	
Friday July 3	Brazil 3 (Bebeto 11; Rivaldo 26, 60) Denmark 2 (Jorgensen 2; B Laudrup 50)	35,500	QUARTER-FINALS	
July 1 & 2	REST DAYS			
Tuesday June 30	Romania 0 Croatia 1 (Soker 45, pen)	34,700	SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Monday June 29	Argentina 2 (Batistuta 6, pen; Zanetti 45) England 2 (Shearer 10, pen; Owen 16) (aet; Argentina win 4-3 on penalties)	30,600	SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Monday June 29	Germany 2 (Klinsmann 75; Bierhoff 86) Mexico 1 (Hernández 47)	35,000	SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Sunday June 28	Holland 2 (Bergkamp 37; Davids 90) Yugoslavia 1 (Komljenovic 49)	36,500	SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Sunday June 28	France 1 (Blanc 114) Paraguay 0 (aet)	41,275	SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Saturday June 27	Nigeria 1 (Babangida 77) Denmark 4 (Moller 3; B Laudrup 12; Sand 59; Høivig 76) 79,500		SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Saturday June 27	Italy 1 (Vieri 18) Norway 0	59,500	SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Saturday June 27	Brazil 4 (César Sampaio 11, 27; Ronaldo 45, pen, 70) Chile 1 (Salas 68)	48,500	SECOND ROUND (KNOCKOUT)	
Thursday June 26	Group H Japan 1 (Nakayama 75) Jamaica 2 (Whitmore 39, 54)	43,500	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 26	Group H Argentina 1 (Pineda 36) Croatia 0	35,000	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 26	Group G Romania 1 (Moldovan 72) Tunisia 1 (Souayah 10, pen)	80,000	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 26	Group G Colombia 0 England 2 (Anderton 20; Beckham 30)	41,275	GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 25	Group E Belgium 1 (Mills 7) South Korea 1 (Yoo Sang-Chul 70)	49,500	GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 25	Group E Holland 2 (Cocu 4; R de Boer 19) Mexico 2 (Peleaz 75; Hernández 90) 35,500		GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 25	Group F Germany 2 (Bierhoff 50; Klinsmann 58) Iran 0	35,000	GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 25	Group F United States 0 Yugoslavia 0 (Komljenovic 4)	39,000	GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 24	Group C France 2 (Djorkaeff 13, pen; Petit 56) Denmark 1 (M Laudrup 42, pen) 43,500		GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 24	Group C South Africa 2 (Henry 36, 77; Trezeguet 68; Lizarazu 85) Saudi Arabia 0	75,000	GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 24	Group D Spain 6 (Piano 6, pen; Luis Enrique 18; Morientes 53, 83; Iñigo 88, 90) Belgium 1 (Rostand 59) 40,500		GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 24	Group D Nigeria 1 (Oruma 11) Paraguay 3 (Ayala 1; Benítez 59; Cardoso 86)	36,500	GROUP STAGE	
Monday June 23	Group B Italy 2 (Vieri 49, R Baggio 90) Austria 1 (Herzog 90, pen)	75,000	GROUP STAGE	
Monday June 23	Group B Chile 1 (Sierra 21) Cameroon 1 (Mbona 56)	39,000	GROUP STAGE	
Monday June 23	Group A Scotland 0 Morocco 3 (Bassir 22, 85; Hadda 47)	35,500	GROUP STAGE	
Monday June 23	Group A Brazil 1 (Bebeto 78) Norway 2 (T A Flo 83; Rekdal 88, pen)	55,000	GROUP STAGE	
Sunday June 22	Group G Colombia 1 (Preciado 83) Tunisia 0	35,000	GROUP STAGE	
Sunday June 22	Group G Romania 2 (Moldovan 47; Petrescu 90) England 1 (Owen 83)	36,500	GROUP STAGE	
Saturday June 21	Group F Germany 2 (Mijatovic 73, og; Bierhoff 80) Yugoslavia 2 (Mijatovic 13; Stojkovic 54)	40,775	GROUP STAGE	
Saturday June 21	Group H Argentina 5 (Ortega 32, 55; Batistuta 75, 79, 83, pen) Jamaica 0	48,500	GROUP STAGE	
Saturday June 21	Group F United States 1 (McBride 87) Iran 2 (Estili 40; Mahdavi 84)	43,500	GROUP STAGE	
Friday June 20	Group H Japan 0 Croatia 1 (Soker 77)	39,000	GROUP STAGE	
Friday June 20	Group E Belgium 2 (Wilmots 43, 48) Mexico 2 (García Aspe 56, pen; Blanco 63) 34,750		GROUP STAGE	
Friday June 20	Group E Holland 5 (Cocu 37; Overmars 41; Bergkamp 71; Van Hooijdonk 79; R de Boer 83) South Korea 0	66,000	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 19	Group D Nigeria 1 (Ikebe 27) Bulgaria 0	48,500	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 19	Group D Spain 0 Paraguay 0	35,300	GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 18	Group C South Africa 1 (McCarthy 52) Denmark 1 (Nielsen 13)	36,500	GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 18	Group C France 4 (Henry 36, 77; Trezeguet 68; Lizarazu 85) Saudi Arabia 0	75,000	GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 17	Group B Chile 1 (Salas 70) Austria 1 (Vastic 90)	30,392	GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 17	Group B Italy 3 (Di Biagio 8; Vieri 75, 89) Cameroon 0	35,500	GROUP STAGE	
Monday June 16	Group A Scotland 1 (Burley 67) Norway 1 (H Flo 46)	30,236	GROUP STAGE	
Monday June 16	Group A Brazil 3 (Ronaldo 9; Rivaldo 45; Bebeto 50) Morocco 0	33,268	GROUP STAGE	
Sunday June 15	Group G England 2 (Shearer 42; Scholes 90) Tunisia 0	54,587	GROUP STAGE	
Sunday June 15	Group G Romania 1 (Ili 45) Colombia 0	37,572	GROUP STAGE	
Sunday June 15	Group F Germany 2 (Möller 9; Klinsmann 65) United States 0	43,815	GROUP STAGE	
Saturday June 14	Group H Argentina 1 (Batistuta 28) Japan 0	33,400	GROUP STAGE	
Saturday June 14	Group F Yugoslavia 1 (Mihajlovic 73) Iran 0	30,392	GROUP STAGE	
Saturday June 14	Group H Jamaica 1 (Earle 45) Croatia 3 (Stanic 27; Prosenicki 53; Soker 69)	38,058	GROUP STAGE	
Friday June 13	Group D Spain 2 (Hiero 21; Raul 47)	33,257	GROUP STAGE	
Friday June 13	Group E South Korea 1 (Ha Seok-Ju 27) Mexico 3 (Peleaz 51; Hernández 74, 82)	37,588	GROUP STAGE	
Friday June 13	Group E Holland 0 Belgium 0	75,000	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 12	Group D Paraguay 0 Bulgaria 0	27,850	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 12	Group C Saudi Arabia 0 Denmark 1 (Rieper 68)	38,140	GROUP STAGE	
Thursday June 12	Group C France 3 (Dugary 35; Issa 78, og; Henry 90) South Africa 0	55,077	GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 11	Group B Italy 2 (Vieri 10; R Baggio 85, pen) Chile 2 (Salas 45, 50)	31,800	GROUP STAGE	
Wednesday June 11	Group B Cameroon 1 (Njanku 77) Austria 1 (Polster 90)	33,460	GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 10	Group A Brazil 2 (César Sampaio 4; Boyd 73, og) Scotland 1 (Collins 38, pen)	80,000	GROUP STAGE	
Tuesday June 10	Group A Morocco 2 (Hadji 38; Hadda 59) Norway 2 (Chippo 45, og; Eggen 61) 29,750		GROUP STAGE	

THE CAPTAIN'S GAME

YELLOW

Argentina: J Chamot (2), A Ortega (2), R Ayala, N Vivas, J Verron, D Simeone, M Almeida, C Roca, N Sensi, Auzias, A Pflafer, P Schlotz (2), W Falsinger, I Vasc, Belgians: L Staelens, E Deflandre, G Vionio, V Borvians, Brazil: César Sampaio (3), Aldair (2), Junior Baitano (2), Leonardo, Cafu, Roberto Carlos, Ze Carlos, Baggio, A Nankov, H Stojkovic, T Haruo, I Ili, R Kichev, L Pesev, G Batchev, Cameroon: S Ipaou, P Wome, P Njanku, D Angbassou, R Song (2), Chillo, N Parraguz (2), C Acuña, F Rojas (2), M Villarreal (2), F Essou, J Salas, J Zambrano, M Barrios, R Fuentes, J Tapa, Colombia: Santa (2), M Serna, V Aristizabal, J Bermudez, Croatia: Z Soldo (2), D Simic (2), R Prosenicki, M Sutaric (2), S Bilo (2), Z Boban (2), R Jami, D Soker, A Assanov, K Juro, I Stipan, Denmark: A Nielsen, M Rieper (2), M Wiegorst, M Schjoberg, J Høgh, P Schmeichel, S Dolding (2), S Toffig, T Høberg, England: S Campbell, P Scholes, A Shearer, D Seaman, P Ince, France: D Deschamps (3), E Petit, Z Zidane, L Blanc, B Lizarazu, B Diomedé, P Viera, S Guivarch, C Martini, Holland: J Stam (2), A Numan, R Ritzler, E Davids (2), P van Hooijdonk, O Sedorf, D Bergkamp, Germany: J Jeremies, O Hamann (2), J Heinrich (2), J Matthäus (2), J Klinsmann, T Hässler, M Babbel, M Tarnat, M Meindl, J Zornig, A Dal, Italy: A di Livio, F Cannavaro, A Costacurta (2), L di Biagio (2), P Maldini (2), F Monero, A del Piero, G Bergami, Jamaica: D Burton, D Powell, P Cargill, S Malcolm, C Dawes, E M Innes, E Nkashah (2), T Haruo, H Nanami, Y Aida, M Yamaguchi, Mexico: J Ordaz, A García Aspe, J Ramírez, C Blanco (2), G Villa, L Hernández, S Carrasco, R Pelaez, P Delgado, M Morales, C Chela, V Hadda, Y Chippo, Nigeria: U Oshuraku (2), M Adeniji, V Ipeba, A Okocha (2), B Iroha, A Eguavoen, Norway: K Rekdal (2), H Berg, O Leinhardt, E Mykland (2), H Flo, Paraguay: M Benítez (2), C Ayala, F Araoz (2), J L Chaves, J C Enciso, R Acuna, Romania: I Filipescu, M Adeniji, D Petrescu (2), G Hagi, G Popescu (2), L Căbutoaru, A Ili, Saudi Arabia: K al-Muwallad, M al-Jahr, S al-Jaber, K al-Qahtani, Scotland: D Jackson (2), G Dunc, K Galtcher, South Africa: L Radebe (2), D Nyathi, A Phiri, P Issa, Q Fortune, South Korea: Lee Min-Sung (2), Choi Yong-Soo, Ko Jong-Soo, Kim Tae-Young, Lee Lim-Saeng, Kim Byung-Ju, Swales G Anso, M A Nadi, I Camoo, Sergi Kiko, L Aguilera, J Guerrero, Tunisia: J Clayton (2), I ben Younes, K Ghodhane, R Bouazzi, Z Beya, S Souvaris, United States: F Reda, E Pope, D Reyna, Yugoslavia: Z Petrovic, D Stojkovic (2), O Scanlon, P Ogyenovic, Z Mirkovic, G Djorovic.

RED

Argentina: A Ortega, Belgium: G Verheven, Bulgaria: A Nankov, Cameroon: R Yalla Nkomo, R Santa, J J Ezzou, Denmark: M Molnar, M Wiegorst, England: D Beckham, France: Z Zidane, L Blanc, M Desailly, Germany: C Wörn, Holland: P Ritzler, A Numan, Jamaica: D Burton, Mexico: P Pardo, J Ramirez, Saudi Arabia: M al-Halawi, Scotland: C Burley, South Africa: A Phiri, South Korea: Ha Seok Ju.

Includes all World Cup final matches

2002

ENGLAND'S bid to stage the 2006 World Cup has probably been strengthened after the past five weeks (John Goodbody writes). Although England supporters were involved in violence, hooliganism was not unique to them. The Germans were involved in the most ugly incident of the competition, when a French policeman was beaten into a coma in Leno.

Although the recent election of Sepp Blatter as Fifa president has boosted hopes that the World Cup will return to this country for the first time since 1966, the support of Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president for Germany, one of England's two rivals, is well-known. The other declared candidate is South Africa. The Swiss may now feel obliged to reward the Football Association for its support in the election campaign by quietly helping England for 2006. The deadline for receiving applications is February 1999. Voting is in June 2000.

THE GROUPS

Group	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	0	16	6	14
Norway	3	1	2	0	5	7
Morocco	3	1	1	5	4	7
Scotland	3	0	1	2	6	6
Italy	3	2	1	0	3	10
Chile	3	0	0	4	3	9
Austria	3	0	2	1	3	6
Cameroon	3	0	2	1	5	6
France	3	3	0	0	9	12
Denmark	3	1	1	1	3	8
South Africa	3	0	2	1	6	6
S Arabia	3	0	1	2	7	6
Nigeria	3	2	0	1	5	8
Paraguay	3	1	2	0	1	7
Spain	3	1	1	1	4	8
Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	1	6
Holland	3	1	2	0	7	8
Mexico	3	1	2	0	5	7
Belgium	3	0	3	0	3	6
South Korea	3	0	1	2	2	6
Germany	3	2	1	0	2	10
Yugoslavia	3	2	0	4	7	10
Iran	3	1	2	2	3	7
US	3	0	3	1	0	6
Romania	3	2	1	0	2	7
England	3	2	0	1	6	10
Colombia	3	1	2	1	3	7
Tunisia	3	0	2	1	1	6
Argentina	3	3	0	0	9	12
Croatia	3	2	0	1	6	10
Jamaica	3	1	2	3	9	7
Japan	3	0	3	1	4	6

TV laps up something completely different

The ghost of Graham Chapman stalked the pitlans of the British Grand Prix at Silverstone — Chapman, the Monty Python man no longer with us, alas, the one who wore an army officer's uniform and stopped sketches in the middle: "Getting silly! Getting silly!"

And I shouted back to the spectral pythonia: "Wrong tense, old man! Wrong tense!" Because Formula One motor racing got silly a long time ago. Yesterday it got even sillier. For a while, it actually got interesting as well. Then the sport's inevitable escalation of silliness robbed the afternoon of any point whatsoever.

The appalling weather honed my appetite for a decent afternoon of sport, for only when it rains does Formula One resemble sport as we know it. When it rains, we are for once watching one human being competing against another.

Watching Ayrton Senna drive in the rain was an education in the kind of driving skills I understand: nerve, courage, self-belief. Senna had greater technical skills than all those around him, except perhaps Alain Prost. In the wet, Prost could not get close to him.

Michael Schumacher, who is in fact a really good chap — I learnt this from Murray Walker yesterday — is in the same class. When the pheasant-tails sprout from the back ends of those faster-than-light advertising hoardings, you learn the difference between a jolly good driver and a great sportsman. But, sad to say, the race began in shall-



SIMON BARNES

PROGRAMME NOTES

take-my-umbrella conditions, so we had all the usual thrilling stuff about tyres. Tut-tut, it looks like rain, and there's me about to run a marathon. Shall I wear my running shoes or my wellies? Most people played safe and wore their work boots.

Then we got real rain and Mika Hakkinen, who preferred his wellies, built up a lead of more than 40 seconds with only 16 laps left. But hang on. That's not fair on all the chaps he's beating, is it? Well, the race is not always to the swift. Certainly not in Formula One.

They brought on the safety car, for the weather by now was beyond foul. Round and round they went, down came the rain. Just as you were getting excited and thinking that the safety car was going to win, it drifted off and the racing started again. Except that Hakkinen was no longer 40 seconds ahead of Schumacher. He was about one second ahead.

It's a really good idea and I think it guarantees true excitement at the end of a dull race. Say you were running a marathon and you had built up a lead of several hundred yards. They make you slow down so that everyone can catch up, and then start you racing again.

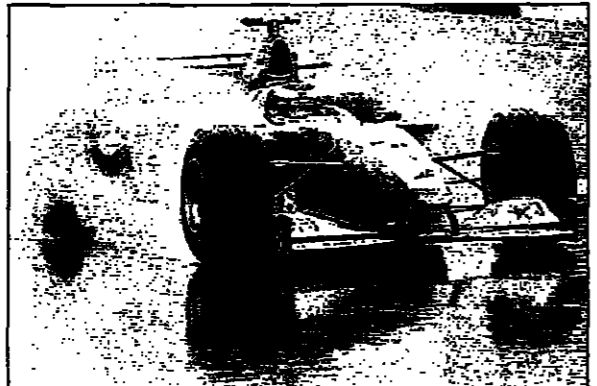
It was inevitable that Hakkinen would get overtaken and beaten. All this

smacks of the penalty shoot-out: anything for cheap excitement. Penalty shoot-outs are exciting, but they're not satisfying. And — though we will never make the organisers of sport or of television believe this — we do not watch sport for cheap thrills.

We watch for expensive thrills. We put in an investment of time and emotion and, with some people, not a little knowledge. And we care. That is why we don't want cheap excitement. We want satisfaction — win, lose or draw. Henman v Sampiras was satisfying; England v Argentina was satisfying, apart from the penalties. This race was merely silly. Then it got even sillier.

None for those new to Formula One: there are two sets of rules in the sport. One applies to all the drivers on the grid except one. The other set is for Schumacher. Yes, and he bends that set to breaking point. He was handed a "stop-go" penalty. That means he had to go into the pits and stop for ten seconds. But Schumacher, naturally, bent the rules once again, this time on the procedure for a stop-go penalty. He did it after the race instead of during it.

We ended up with a result, a protest, and ITV glorious with self-delight. Oh, wasn't that wonderful? No, it was complete sporting nonsense. Now some sales talk: jolly good football match on tonight. World Cup final, you know. "And they'll have to go a bit to be more exciting than that!" Oh, they'll have been hugging themselves in the broadcast centre afterwards. Super TV. Super TV. Maybe. But it wasn't super sport, was it? There is a difference: approximately the same as the difference between Guinness and alcohol-free lager. But the television people, they can't distinguish them.



Hakkinen was undone by rain and regulations

Cheers short-lived as leading trio find little home comfort Britons slip into obscurity

BY ALEX RAMSAY

THERE seems to be something familiar in all of this. The rain pelted down, the local heroes fell valiantly in the early rounds and the generally accepted top dog wins the title. We could almost be at Wimbledon. While Michael Schumacher and Mika Hakkinen wandered around after the chequered flag attempting to figure out who had won, one fact was clear — Messrs Coulthard, Hill and Herbert had got it horribly wrong, slipping and sliding out of contention in the wet.

It had all looked so promising for David Coulthard when it did not matter. Ron Dennis had been talking amiably about having two equal drivers leading the McLaren challenge for the drivers' championship, how it made no difference who crossed the line first, provided it was one of his chaps. Then we came to qualifying. For someone who has not been lower than third on the starting grid all season, Coulthard was pushed back to fourth position. Worse, by a man with purple hair.

Coulthard was leaving nothing to chance, but he never does. Although claiming that he is not superstitious, he never races without his lucky underpants — a 15-year-old pair of blue boxer shorts — his two four-leafed clovers, his lucky gold coin or his St Christopher medal, as given to him by his great-grandmother. But even with that lot, he has only taken one point from his past four races.

Still, this was Silverstone, these were his people. How they cheered when he overtook Schumacher to move into second place, but how they groaned when he lost it 30 laps later, spun off and stalked back through the mud to his motorhome. He was not a happy man, and neither were the thousands of damp spectators.



DAVID JONES

Real dampener: Coulthard trudges away for the inevitable inquest after spinning off

more equal than others on account of the fact that he can finish races. And with points to boot.

At least Coulthard spoke. Hill was acting the strong, dark, silent type. Not exactly the most demonstrative of

men, even his departure from the race was quiet. No big skids, no bumps or bangs, just a gentle slide through 180 degrees to end up pointing the wrong way, which is never a wise roove on a one-way street. Then again, Hill's idea of a

wise move is not quite the same as everyone else's. When, as the reigning world champion, he parted company with Williams and headed for TWR Arrows, the more gung-ho of his followers talked proudly of the big man taking

the little team to glory. Others muttered darkly about covering his tracks. At Williams, they argued, he had been a reasonably good driver in an exceptionally good car, while Schumacher was undoubtedly an exceptional driver but stuck in a reasonable car. At Arrows, Hill could be as good or as bad as he liked and no one would know because the car was seldom likely to last the distance.

At Jordan, the excuses may be couched in cleverer terms — he talks of "horsepower deficit" and "knowledge of steps we intend to introduce", but the results are much the same. But, having failed to finish in the points this year, at least he is consistent, which must go some way to accounting for his £5 million-a-year pay packet.

As for Johnny Herbert, it all got to be a bit too much. A genial soul from Essex, he found that driving and talking at the same time was rather more than he could manage.

"This is the one race where I want to get a result. It's becoming a great struggle"

His team had made things as simple as possible — just the one pit stop, less to think about that way — but even that was pushing it.

With Jean Alesi, his teammate, at his back, he took one hand off the wheel and ended up in the mud. "The team started talking to me on the radio, but it was hard to understand with all the interference," he said. "I started to wave Jean by, but it's difficult when you are racing in such conditions, trying to decipher a radio message and watching your mirrors and I spun off into the dirt." And he was not even chewing gum at the same time.

It was all depressingly familiar. A big British event and a bunch of big British losers. The weather may not have been much better at Wimbledon, but at least we had a man in the semi-finals. Maybe they should think about putting a roof over Silverstone...

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CHANGING TIMES

Handwritten Arabic text: كذا من لطف

John Hopkins on a Briton's remorseless drive to golfing stardom Westwood slips into top gear

It was at Royal Birkdale 22 years ago that the world first became aware of the precocious talents of Severiano Ballesteros. Scores of relentlessly attacking strokes streamed from the clubs of the gifted teenager who appeared to be in such a hurry. On those four days of summer in 1976, Ballesteros announced his presence with the force of a brick being hurled through a window.

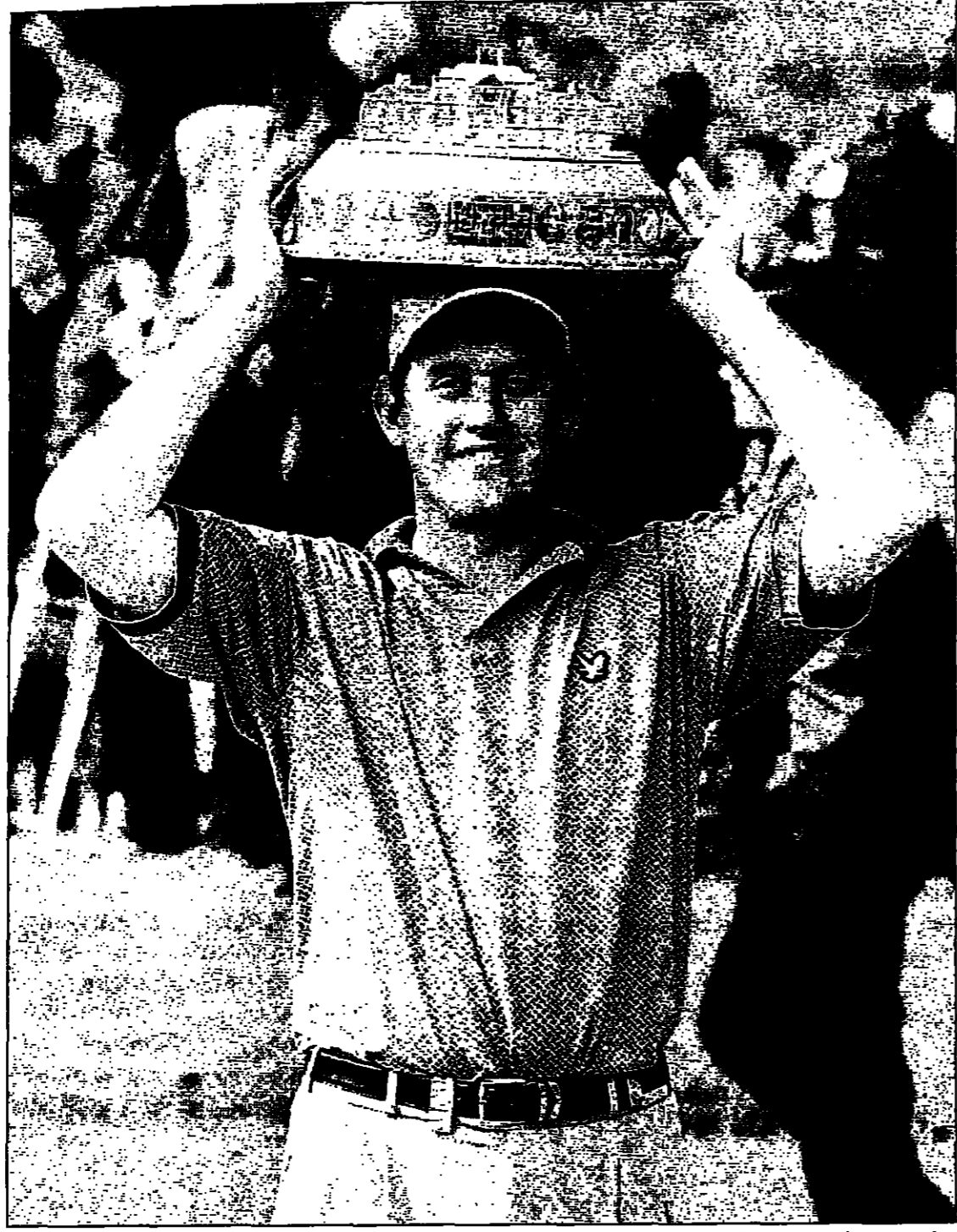
As the world of golf gathers for one more Open Championship at the Lancashire links, another young man has barged his way to the forefront of the game. In the past nine months, Lee Westwood, who is only three months past his 25th birthday, has stood firm on his head. Like some acquisitive medieval emperor, he has roamed the globe voraciously, acquiring one-quarter of the tournaments in which he has competed. His victory at Loch Lomond on Saturday was his seventh since October.

This time last year, the steps Westwood needed to take to continue his steady rise were clearly marked and easy to follow. He needed to win again in Europe and the Far East, to become a force in the major championships and to capture his first title in the United States. It is not only the speed at which Westwood has passed these yardsticks that has been so surprising. It is also the manner in which he has captured those titles on different continents.

Within the space of 270 days the Briton has chalked up victories in Spain, Japan, Australia, the United States, Germany, England and now Scotland, as well as appearing in a winning Ryder Cup team. If he is in third gear in September he is in fifth now, and the needle of the rev counter is racing towards the red. Not since Tony Jacklin in the late Sixties has a golfer from Europe progressed so far in so short a time.

If there is a man confident enough to break the hoodoo that has prevented any golfer in Europe from winning the event before the Open and then the Open itself, it is Westwood, whose confidence is one of the most striking of his characteristics. He looks questioners straight in the eye, speaks his mind and demonstrates a maturity and composure that are far beyond many of his age. "He never makes the same mistake twice," Andrew Chandler, his manager, said. "He is a very confident young man."

Westwood's confidence is allied to the cautiousness of Mick Dolan, his caddy, and the mixture contributes to Westwood's success. It is the same with the chemistry between Westwood and Peter Cowen, his coach,



Westwood holds aloft the trophy after his four-stroke victory in the World Invitational at Loch Lomond

whose blunt Northern common sense means so much to Westwood, and between Westwood and Chandler. Westwood pulls up trees. Chandler — a wily former player who is building an impressive stable of players — is a light pair of hands on the reins.

In the US Open in San Francisco last month, Tom Watson spoke

warmly of Westwood, citing his attitude to the game and his skill. Colin Montgomerie said: "Lee has become the man to beat at every tournament." Tom Lehman, the Open champion in 1996, said: "Lee is one of the players I'd pick to win at Birkdale."

"The moment that won Westwood the World Invitational at Loch

Lomond was at the 15th, where Dennis Ludlum, his leading challenger, led a ball and took a seven, while Westwood sank a good putt for a birdie three. That was when he got his hands on the £141,000 first prize and set himself up for a bonus of £650,000 from Standard Life if he were to win the Open this week. Money, money, money. It does not



'Daft indeed is the man who says he will not win the Open this week'

make Westwood's world go round. He is too level-headed. But it does help. A conservative estimate of the amount that has gone Westwood's way in prize-money and endorsements since he started his fantastic run last autumn is £1.5 million. That run has seen him rise to seventh in the world rankings, two places behind Montgomerie.

"The best player will definitely win here this week," Westwood had said on the eve of a tournament recently. Right sentiments, wrong tournament: Westwood was speaking the day before the Murphy's Irish Open, won by David Garter, got under way. Last week, Westwood was the best player, on a wonderful course in a breathtaking setting.

What that one could use the same adjectives about the tournament itself. It has a pretentious title that jars on the ears and rounds throughout golf with the clarity of a muffed bell. A lot of improvements must be done before the possibility of staging the Ryder Cup here in 2009 is mentioned again.

Perhaps, though, Westwood will not mind returning there in 11 years' time. He will be 36 by then, the man who drew along a new generation of stars to follow him as Jacklin inspired Peter Oosterhuis, Ballesteros inspired Bernhard Langer and the deeds of Sandy Lyle pushed Nick Faldo on and on. Daft indeed is the man who says that Westwood will not win the Open this week.

Faldo remains upbeat despite injury worry

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

AS NOTTING, tugging south to south-easterly wind roared around Royal Birkdale yesterday afternoon, and with it came black clouds. It put one in mind of the Open Championship of 1961, when the two rounds to be played on the third and last days were lost to bad weather and Arnold Palmer, who would go on to win the title, whiled away the time by playing bridge. If a day is lost this year, will Justin Leonard, the defending champion, do likewise? Indeed, if a day is lost this year, can any competitor play bridge?

Just before 5pm, a dark grey Jaguar nosed its way up to the door of the European Tour's physiotherapy unit. Nick Faldo, forced to withdraw from the tournament at Loch Lomond last week, climbed out and went inside. The cast on his damaged arm, which had forced him to practise his putting using only his left hand, had been removed the previous day. He seemed relaxed and cheerful, certainly not in the sort of mood one would expect of someone who is not likely to be fit to compete in the Open, his 44th consecutive major championship.

Moments later Faldo reappeared, carrying enormous suitcases. "You shouldn't be carrying suitcases even in the left hand, should you?" someone said. "It's all right in my left hand," Faldo replied, leaving the cases into the boot of the car. He paused long enough to have his photograph taken with a man from Cambridge who is attending the Open for the whole week, and then was prevailed upon by Brenna Cepelak, his companion, and Jonathan Shrewsbury, one of the physiotherapists, to have some treatment on his arm while he was there.

"I had wanted to walk the course but it looks a bit iffy, doesn't it?" Faldo said, gestulating at the clouds overhead. "I've just watched the grand prix. Who won? Who do you think?" Birkdale was far from its normal hospitable self, yet, by all accounts, it was being

played more kindly by the weather than many other parts of the country. Even so, the Open qualifying round at West Lancashire Golf Club, ten miles away, was stopped just after 5pm because of heavy rain and high winds. It was suspended for the day at 6.30pm. "Apparently the 16th is a brute today," a club official reported. "It took Seve Ballesteros a drive and a one-iron to reach the green."



Faldo: cheerful mood

14-year-old Michael Watson plays off 15. "I can't play, so golf really isn't on the agenda for me at the moment, so that is why I am getting out well before Thursday morning when the event starts," Norman Sr said. His company is partly sponsoring the Junior Open. "Having said that, coming here makes you realise what a big event it is."

Norman revealed he had made a routine visit to his doctor about his injured right shoulder ten days ago and was making good progress. "I am about ten days ahead of schedule, apparently," Norman said. "That means I should be able to start hitting balls at the end of August and beginning of September."

Qualifying tale of wild winds and high scores

By MEL WEBB

IF EVER there was an Open Championship final qualifying competition of two halves, this was it. Yesterday morning the conditions at the four qualifying courses in the vicinity of Royal Birkdale were, at worst, mildly inclement, but anybody teeing off after about 11am was in grave danger of having their ears blown off. Links golf is, admittedly, all about the

ability to play in the wind: there is nothing in the rules of engagement to make performing in a hurricane part of the deal. Play at three of the venues managed to keep going through the tempest but, at West Lancashire, the farthest course from Birkdale, they had to give best to the gales at 6.30pm after play had been

suspended for 85 minutes. Players there will start their attempt to finish their first round at 7.15am today. Highest round of the day was 91 recorded at Hillside by Daniel Abrahams; they do not often have to play in 40mph gusts at Dulwich and Sydenham. But he was not

alone in relating a mournful tale. Eighty-odds were commonplace and anything in the mid-seventies constituted a small triumph. As the wind waxed, retirements, withdrawals and no-returns began to sprout like measles on a sickly child. Christy O'Connor Jr is no

stranger to playing in a wind but this, he felt, was beyond a joke. O'Connor completed an 82 at Hillside, in which he included one seven and four sixes, then went back to Galway Bay in a hurry. Mark Roe had a bit of bother with his broomstick putter; the long weapon tends to be blown about in a breeze, and the grisly consequence for

the former England World Cup player was that he took ten at the 18th at Hillside, including five putts. He then forgot to sign his card and was disqualified, lucky chap.

There was a healthy handful of scores in the sixties, but they all came from players who were out early in the day. The honourable exception was Derrick Cooper, who had a 69 at Hesketh but did not really know how he had done it. "That was unbelievable," he said. "I don't know how I stood up."

Lowest score of the day came from Gary Evans, who had a four-under-par 67 at Hesketh then reflected on a happy event that should befall him later in the week. His wife, Samantha, is due to give birth on Wednesday, by which time the expectant father should have confirmed his place in the championship proper.

The birth is more definite than the golf. "The baby is a month late, so the birth will be induced," Evans, who, as an amateur, struck the first ball when the Open was last played at Birkdale in 1991, said.

If he maintains the form he showed yesterday, the baby's head can be wetted in the finest bubbly.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL QUALIFYING SCORES

HESKETH (par 71): 67: G Evans (Mid Fife), 68: D Jones (Birkdale), 70: J Sanderson (Swire), 71: J O'Connell (Swire), 72: J O'Connell (Swire), 73: J O'Connell (Swire), 74: J O'Connell (Swire), 75: J O'Connell (Swire), 76: J O'Connell (Swire), 77: J O'Connell (Swire), 78: J O'Connell (Swire), 79: J O'Connell (Swire), 80: J O'Connell (Swire), 81: J O'Connell (Swire), 82: J O'Connell (Swire), 83: J O'Connell (Swire), 84: J O'Connell (Swire), 85: J O'Connell (Swire), 86: J O'Connell (Swire), 87: J O'Connell (Swire), 88: J O'Connell (Swire), 89: J O'Connell (Swire), 90: J O'Connell (Swire), 91: J O'Connell (Swire), 92: J O'Connell (Swire), 93: J O'Connell (Swire), 94: J O'Connell (Swire), 95: J O'Connell (Swire), 96: J O'Connell (Swire), 97: J O'Connell (Swire), 98: J O'Connell (Swire), 99: J O'Connell (Swire), 100: J O'Connell (Swire).

WEST LANCASHIRE (par 72): 66: B Dudgeon (Barnsley), 67: D Lee (Huddersfield), 68: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 69: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 70: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 71: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 72: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 73: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 74: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 75: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 76: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 77: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 78: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 79: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 80: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 81: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 82: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 83: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 84: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 85: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 86: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 87: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 88: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 89: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 90: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 91: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 92: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 93: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 94: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 95: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 96: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 97: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 98: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 99: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield), 100: J Huddlestone (Huddersfield).

SOUTHPORT AND ANSDALE (par 72): 66: S McPherson (Fylde), 67: S McPherson (Fylde), 68: S McPherson (Fylde), 69: S McPherson (Fylde), 70: S McPherson (Fylde), 71: S McPherson (Fylde), 72: S McPherson (Fylde), 73: S McPherson (Fylde), 74: S McPherson (Fylde), 75: S McPherson (Fylde), 76: S McPherson (Fylde), 77: S McPherson (Fylde), 78: S McPherson (Fylde), 79: S McPherson (Fylde), 80: S McPherson (Fylde), 81: S McPherson (Fylde), 82: S McPherson (Fylde), 83: S McPherson (Fylde), 84: S McPherson (Fylde), 85: S McPherson (Fylde), 86: S McPherson (Fylde), 87: S McPherson (Fylde), 88: S McPherson (Fylde), 89: S McPherson (Fylde), 90: S McPherson (Fylde), 91: S McPherson (Fylde), 92: S McPherson (Fylde), 93: S McPherson (Fylde), 94: S McPherson (Fylde), 95: S McPherson (Fylde), 96: S McPherson (Fylde), 97: S McPherson (Fylde), 98: S McPherson (Fylde), 99: S McPherson (Fylde), 100: S McPherson (Fylde).



Mize scored 71 at Hesketh

LOMBARD TROPHY UPDATE

Now in its fourth year, it's already the biggest and best Pro Am golfing event in Europe. In 1998 over 100,000 club golfers from 1,200 clubs competed in qualifying rounds for the right to partner their club professional in one of 16 Regional Finals. The 16 winning pairings gained an expenses paid trip to the Grand Final between 25 and 29 September, flying to the Algarve with TAP Air Portugal.

Lombard, the event's sponsor, is the UK's largest finance house which advances around £150 million each week to their business and personal customers - many of whom compete in the Trophy.

South-East Final
Shortlands professional John Murray showed his liking for Sundridge Park, by winning the Regional Final from a Lombard record field of 90 teams, with 7-handicapper Cliff Roberts. "I've already won two pro-ams and a regional qualifier for the Open Championship here," he explained. Roberts, the club captain, was a late but extremely effective stand-in for Customs officer Gordon Harrison, who was abroad on duty. The amateur carded three net birdies and a net eagle in their 62 (-9).

East Anglia Final
For the first time in the Trophy's four years professional and the same amateur won a Regional Final two years in a row. Stuart Levermore and 16-handicapper Paul Atkinson (Clacton-on-Sea) put together a six under 66 at King's Lynn, one ahead of Spalding. Atkinson had a net eagle and two net birdies with a gross score that was only three over par.

South Final
Hinthlesham Hall, near Ipswich, had failed to find vacancies in two other Regional Finals, but they pulled off a dramatic late win at Charnham Park, East Grafton, to oust amateur John Watt to victory at Brookmans Park, Hatfield with a net 64 (-7). Brown carded five birdies, while retired Vaalham worker Watt scored net birdies at 12 and 15, the latter a chip-in.

Report compiled by the PGA Press Office

FORTHCOMING COMPANY GOLF DAYS

The companies listed have registered their golf days for the 1998 Challenge. The following individual scores of the day will form the company team score to qualify for a national final.

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
10 JUL	ALUSISSE UK LTD	PATSHULL PARK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	48
10 JUL	AUKETT ASSOCIATES	FIMBLEY	50
10 JUL	JACKSONS PREMIER PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS	TYTHERTON	58
16 JUL	NSS SERVICES GROUP PLC	NORTHOP COUNTRY PARK	40
10 JUL	PAUL DAVIDSON TAYLOR	MANNINGS HEATH	70
18 JUL	PROVID SERVICES LTD	RAC COUNTRY CLUB	40
10 JUL	VAROON HEALTH & FITNESS	EFFINGHAM	40
11 JUL	ALPHA PRECISION ENGINEERING (POOLE) LTD	MEYRICK PARK	24
11 JUL	PALL EUROPE	PAULTONS	20
11 JUL	DIY PLC	WEYMOUTH	14
14 JUL	DFDS TRANSPORT LIMITED	STOKE BY NAYLAND	80
14 JUL	FIBRENET GROUP PLC	RATHSALLAGH	30
14 JUL	HYATT HOTELS & RESORTS	MANNINGS HEATH	35
14 JUL	LIFETIME ASSURANCE	DUN LADONNIE	40
14 JUL	SCHRODER / SKANDIA	SUNNINGDALE	35
15 JUL	NORTH DOWNS HOSPITAL	RENGATE HEATH	18
15 JUL	NORTHGATE MOTOR HOLDINGS LTD	EAGLESCLIFFE	100
16 JUL	Q D LEGAL	ST GEORGE'S HILL	30
15 JUL	RAF POLICE GOLF ASSOCIATION	NEWARK	55
15 JUL	SBS GROUP LTD	MOOR PARK	58
15 JUL	SONY	THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	16
15 JUL	WHITBREAD BEER COMPANY	MENTMOR GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	70
16 JUL	ADMIRAL COMPUTING	SILVERMERE	20
16 JUL	BRIDGEMASTER & COULTON	LEAMINGTON SPA	40
16 JUL	BRITISH AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	HEMPTON GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	50
16 JUL	DAVID WURN LTD	WREKIN	48
16 JUL	LLOYDS TSB	ST GEORGE'S HILL	50
16 JUL	COMMERCIAL FINANCE	STANTON ON THE WOLDS	48
16 JUL	POSFORD OLIVIER	TOFT HOLE	40
16 JUL	W & H MARRIAGE & SONS LTD	STOCK BROOK MANOR	58
17 JUL	BRITISH STEEL DISTRIBUTION	OTLEY	16
17 JUL	DUNLOP HEYWOOD	THE RICHMOND	15
17 JUL	FREDRICKSON INTERNATIONAL LTD	MILLRIDE	30
17 JUL	HARRIS & BIDON INSURANCE BROKERS LTD	PYRFORD	48
17 JUL	INDEPENDENT AGRICULTURE LIMITED	GOSWICK	120
17 JUL	JOTUK-HENRY CLARK LTD	HARRIGATE	40
17 JUL	KAWAZAKI MOTORS UK LTD	MENTMOR GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	20
17 JUL	SHORT BROS PLC	CLANDONBOVEY	48

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Benson and Hedges Cup final: Essex seam bowlers set up record victory

Hangover turns into nightmare for Leicestershire

LORD'S (Leicestershire won toss). Essex beat Leicestershire by 192 runs...

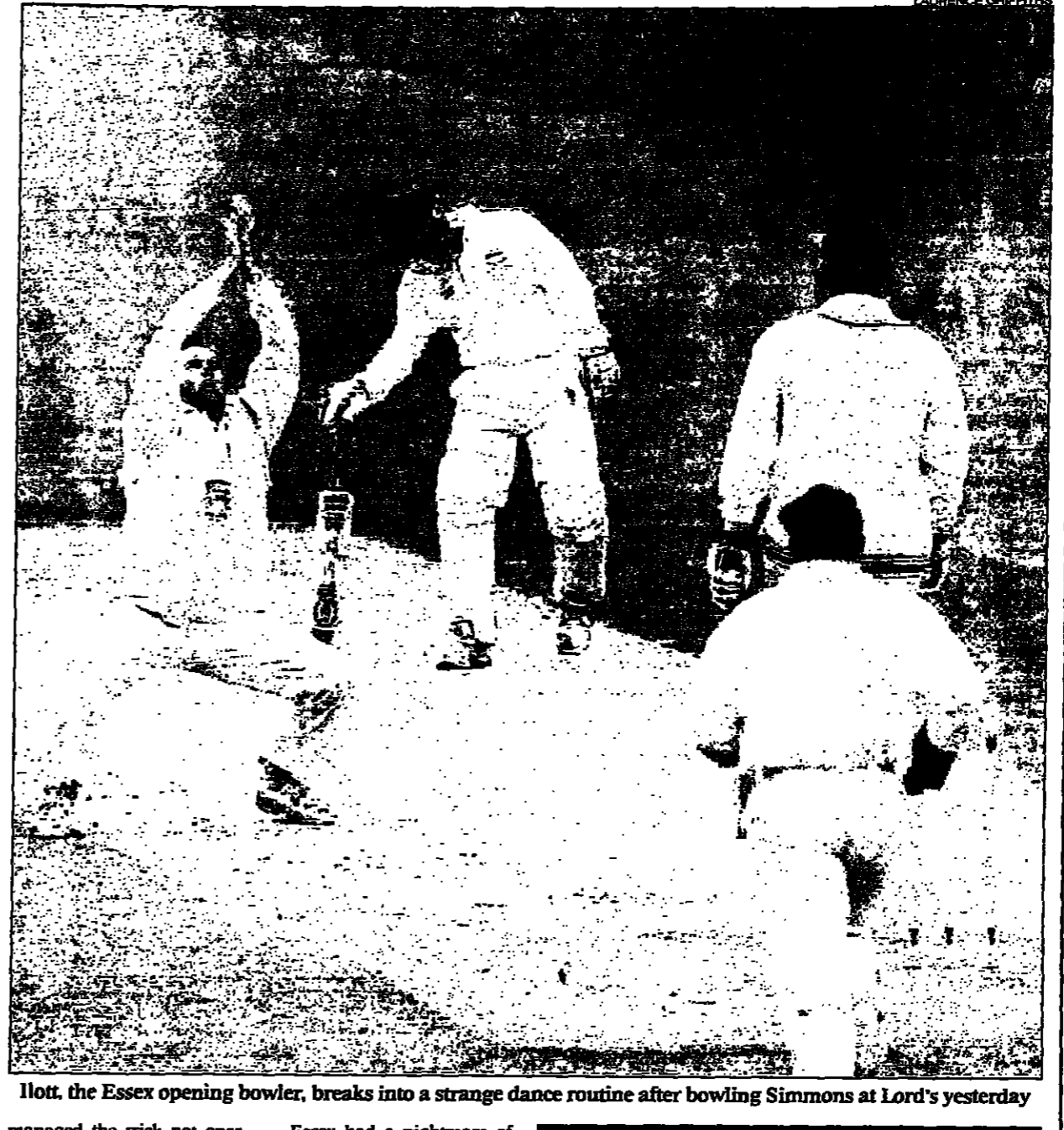
By MICHAEL HENDERSON For Leicestershire, it was a huge disappointment...

duly found two witches to fit the bill. Simmons conceded 67 runs from nine overs...



Richard: displays trophy

Darren Maddy, the Leicestershire opening batsman, will recall with much favour...



Iliot, the Essex opening bowler, breaks into a strange dance routine after bowling Simmons at Lord's yesterday

Practice makes perfect for anxious pair

In the gloom of early afternoon yesterday, Ashley Cowan and Mark Iliot practised bowling at an undefended wicket...

Richard Hobson sees Cowan and Iliot blossom after wilting during rehearsal at Nursery Ground

...we did not want it to come down to that, Prichard said. In true Essex style we could not hit a thing...

managed the trick not once, not twice, but three times. First, Maddy carried the ball over when Prichard slashed Wells high towards the Mound Stand...

Essex had a nightmare of their own, two years ago when Lancashire bowled them out for 57 in the NatWest final. To have returned in successive years...

SCOREBOARD FROM LORD'S. Essex won toss. Leicestershire won toss. Score after 15 overs: 61-1.

Sri Lanka look to a bright future

By ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT ARJUNA RANATUNGA was still a schoolboy when he made a half-century against England...

Ranununga recognises as much and it is the need to identify a new generation of Test cricketers...

Along with Roy Dias, the new coach, who played alongside him in the Sri Lanka sides of the 1980s...

Ealham's efforts to no avail

By THRASY PETROPOULOS EDEGBASTON (Warwickshire won toss): Warwickshire (4pts) beat Kent by five wickets (D/L method)...

KENT would have been justified in throwing their heads back in despair at the prospect of this game for Edgbaston has been the sortiest of hunting grounds for them recently...

Spinners take turn for better

By MICHAEL AUSTIN TRENT BRIDGE (Glamorgan won toss): Glamorgan (4pts) beat Nottinghamshire by nine runs...

SPIN, an often neglected weapon in the limited-overs game, enjoyed a fling yesterday to boost Glamorgan...

England fall short in tight finish

By SARAH POTTER SCARBOROUGH (Australia won toss): Australia beat England by a higher run-rate...

IT was not typical Scarborough fare. The festival home to Yorkshire men promised a sparkling match yesterday and although the rain delayed...

regret, despite amassing 166 for five in their 29 overs. The umpires recalculated the original 50 over three times...

Solanki's show of promise

By RUPERT COX DERBY (Derbyshire won toss): Worcestershire (4pts) beat Derbyshire by 48 runs...

UNDER normal circumstances, winning the toss with a dreadful weather forecast is a precursor to victory under the Duckworth/Lewis method...

Ireland's rally led by Dunlop

By KARL JOHNSTON IN DUBLIN CASTLE AVENUE (the South Africans won toss): The South Africans beat Ireland by 63 runs...

AN UNDEFEATED century from Angus Dunlop, their captain, helped Ireland's weekend dual cricketers put up a credible display against the South Africans...

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Table with columns for Axia League, Derbyshire v Worcestershire, Warwickshire v Kent, Nottinghamshire v Glamorgan, Ireland v South Africans, and Warwickshire v Kent.

Thundering hooves and a leap of faith

Ride him into the middle of the jump," Jane Unit, my instructor, urged. "Gather him so he's bouncing into it and then give him the impulsion with your legs, keep him at 90 degrees to the fence and as he takes off, fold forward so he can stretch his neck out."

Sally Jones goes back to riding school to quell her fears and learn how to jump properly

I persuaded my mount, Thomas, a kindly dark-brown cob, into a slow canter and circled him under the gaze of my fellow pupils, six accomplished young riders ranging in age from eight to 18. On sighting the fence, Thomas thundered and pawed like a warhorse and I fought to prevent our approach degenerating into a headlong gallop.

The impulsion was there: the brakes were a different matter. I regained control in the last three strides and as he took off, I threw myself flat, arms outstretched to avoid pulling on that delicate mouth. He cleared the red-and-white poles, 2ft 6in high, with a mighty bound, leaving me clinging halfway up his neck. Then he obligingly slowed to a walk so that I could retrieve my balance, stirrups and self-esteem.

"Good try," Jane announced with commendable charity. "but you literally threw yourself and the reins much too far forward." I tried once more over an inviting brushwood fence and managed a little more control, but still felt off-balance on the landing. "Better," Jane said, "but try to keep your lower legs clamped against Thomas's sides. If you're rocking around, it puts him off balance too."

This was my first jumping lesson for two decades or so; first-hand experience of the methods used to train the growing number of young riders taking up the sport, at Pittern Hill, a Warwickshire riding centre which specialises in teaching children to jump as soon as they begin to ride.

It was all a far cry from my first jumping lesson at the age of eight, shaking with terror on Taffy, a friend's pony, as he leapt a rickety obstacle made of old packing cases ("Tell him who's boss, Sally! Just boot him in the ribs and use your whip.") Unfortunately, Taffy knew only too well who was boss and these occasions usu-

ally ended with me sitting on the grass or clambering gingerly out of the wrecked jump. ("Oh, no. Out the side door again! You're just not tough enough with him. What are you crying for? The bleeding's almost stopped.")

By contrast, Jane's lesson proceeded with exemplary calm and plenty of practical demonstrations. When someone asked why we had to shorten our stirrups before we started jumping, she showed how much easier it is to lean forward and then regain balance if the knees are bent. The first 20 minutes were spent schooling the horses in circles and figures of eight, encouraging them to respond to the riders' signals transmitted via seat, reins and legs. We then trotted over a small fence of crossed poles, first negotiating a pole lying on the ground three human paces from the jump.

"Those three paces are the equivalent of one canter stride by a horse," Jane explained. "You trot up to the placing pole and the horse hops over it and breaks into a canter for one stride before taking off over the jump itself. The pole is a guide for take-off and encourages the horse to stay balanced rather than rushing it."

When children first start learning, even four or five-year-olds on a leading rein, I usually make sure they pop over a tiny jump the minute they've got their balance, hanging on to the mane with one hand if necessary. I put a hand on their knee to keep them secure in the saddle and they learn to lean forward and get used to the motion of the pony making that slight arc for a moment, so we make sure they can do it safely. Later

it gets more technical, counting strides into the jumps and learning to do tight turns. But at first the main idea is to let them know that jumping is a perfectly natural part of basic riding.

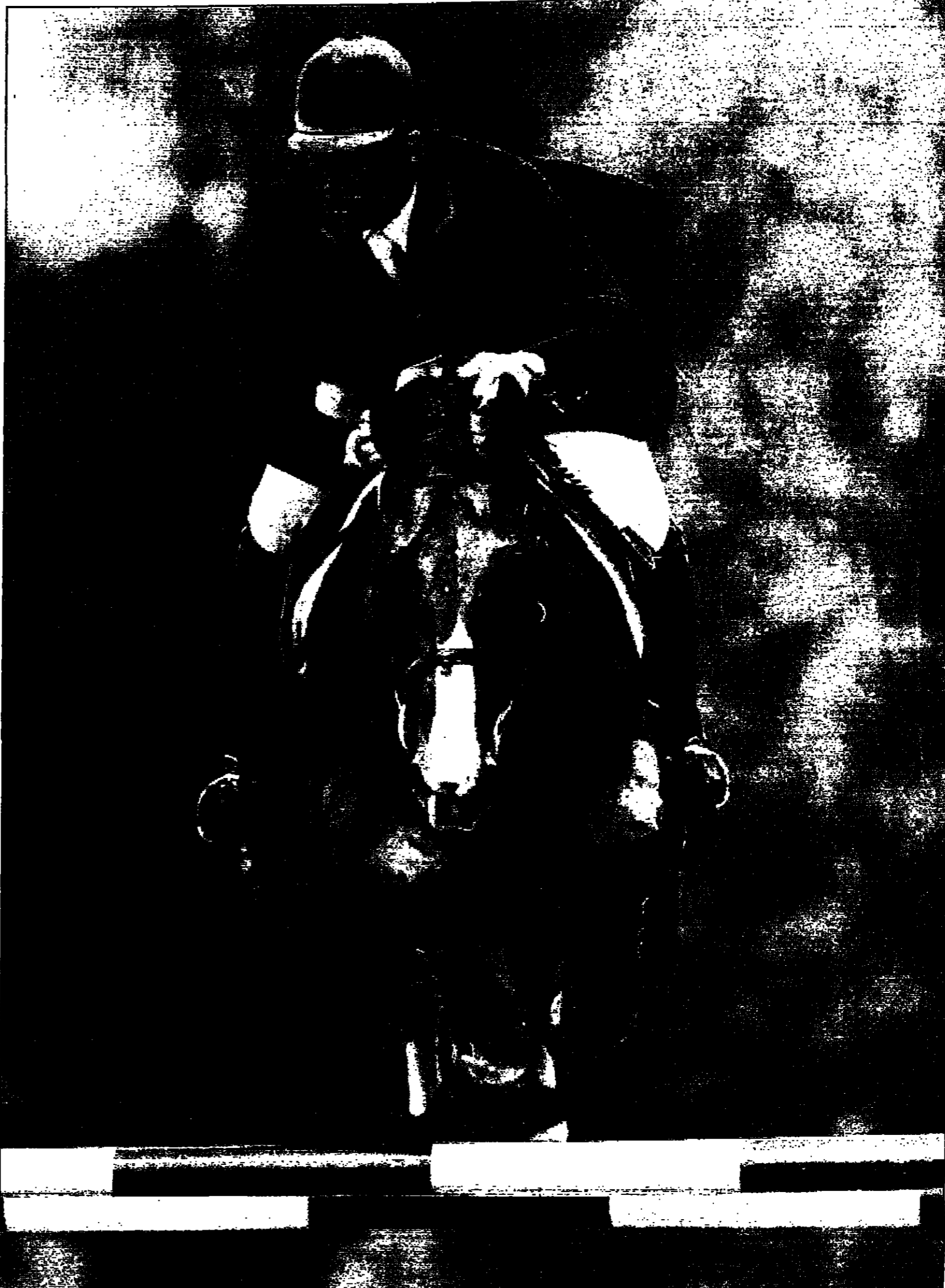
While I attempted to inject more impulsion into Thomas, my companions were facing a variety of challenges from their own mounts. Thomas Garratt, 13, the only boy in the group and a keen Pony Clubber, needed all the strength in his legs to drive on the sweet-natured but bovine cob, Trevor, who lolloped over the jumps like a rocking horse. After a couple of hairy moments when Trevor took off too early and essayed a monstrous leap, half-stumbling over his soap-plate hooves, Thomas regained his stirrups and heroically urged him into



a more flowing canter, managing a clear round.

Another teenager, Karla Hawke, started thunderously on Lexi, a spirited chestnut. To my admiration, she preserved perfect sang-froid when Lexi approached a double jump too fast downhill and ended up ploughing through the first fence at a gentle skid, sitting on his hindquarters like a dog, his rider still securely aboard and quite impassive.

Despite my inexperience, my mount Thomas took charge during our final round and jumped clear, apart from the final brushwood fence when I forgot to urge him into the last three strides. "Just four faults. Not bad for starters," Jane encouraged. "What about entering next week's jumping? It's quite straightforward, nothing above three feet." Somehow my nerves seemed to have disappeared and I heard myself declaring "I'm game if Thomas is".



Showjumper Nick Skelton shows how it should be done. Jumping is increasingly popular with young riders, who can be taught from age four

WHERE TO GO



SEAN PAGE

Labour of love: student Stacey Goodwin mucks out at the Pittern Hill Riding School, in Kineton, Warwickshire

THE best way to start jumping is through lessons at a reputable riding school, preferably approved by The British Horse Society or The Association of British Riding Schools, and with a good track record and experienced horses and ponies to choose from. As at Pittern Hill, jumping is often introduced as soon as the beginner feels safe and controlled in walk and trot.

Many riding school and branches of the Pony Club run shows with a range of classes, including novice jumping and clear-round competitions with courses to help newcomers build their confidence. These events are unaffiliated, while for the more serious competitors, the British Show Jumping Association (BSJA), the sport's governing body, stages around 2,000 events for all levels. Horses and ponies are graded from D up to A, depending on their winnings, and the shows provide a structure through which riders can progress.

Clothing: Safety is paramount and all reputable riding schools insist that pupils wear an approved protective helmet or riding cap. These are compulsory at BSJA shows. Solid shoes or boots, preferably leather jodhpur or riding boots, are recommended. Most pupils wear jodhpurs or loosely cut jeans for lessons and many riders use body protectors. The BSJA operates a dress code depending on the level of show; this includes a tailored jacket — red for men, black or navy for women at leading



Care: Holly Hawke grooms a pony

championships — white shirts and ties or stocks, white, pale yellow or fawn jodhpurs and black leather riding boots. Cost: Showjumping is not cheap. Group lessons at riding schools can range from £15-£25 an hour and individual teaching varies from around £25-£50 an hour. Prize-money for winning a class at a local show is often under £10. At the other end of the scale, shortage of TV coverage and sponsors means quite low prize-money for big championships, too. Only a few top riders with personal sponsors are likely to do more than break even from winnings and make most of their income from buying and selling

horses they have brought on. Basic kit: Many newcomers start with second-hand kit, which would cost around £150. Buying new is more expensive: a helmet costs £90+, a shirt and stock £40, leather boots £90+, shirt and stock £40, jackets start at £130. Buying a horse: Although many newcomers enjoy jumping in shows on riding school horses, once riders decide that they want to compete regularly, they usually buy their own horse or pony of their own. Expect to pay at least £2,000 for a pony with jumping experience, while a horse with a basic grounding in jumping might fetch £4,000 plus. For a top-class or potentially top-class show-jumper the sky is the limit and many of Britain's best horses are sold abroad.

Keep and hire of a stable and grazing is at least £25 a week, more if the horse is kept at livery. A good second-hand saddle and bridle costs around £400; a second-hand trailer at least £1,500. Most riders competing regularly say that it costs at least £2,000 a year in transport, entries, vet and carrier fees to take part at mainly local shows.

Where to watch: Hickstead Showjumping Derby, Hickstead; August 20-23; Horse of the Year Show, Wembley; September 23-27. For further details: BSJA British Equestrian Centre, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2LR — 01203 698800; Pittern Hill Riding Centre, Kineton, Warwickshire, CV3 5JFF — 01926 640370.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT
TGRs has an annual outing, which this year was to Weston Park, the country house occupied the previous weekend by the heads of state for the G8 conference. Howard Cohen claims he was billeted in the Clinton room. Cohen defended this hand at Weston; he says it shows it is more difficult to defend against poor bidders than against good ones.

Dealer South	Love all	Rubber bridge
♠ Q J 9 3 ♥ 5 2 ♦ A K J 8 4 ♣ 9 3	<p>♠ N ♥ W ♦ E ♣ S</p>	<p>♠ K ♥ Q 10 3 ♦ 10 9 7 6 5 ♣ Q 10 7 5</p>
♠ 8 7 6 ♥ J 8 7 5 ♦ — ♣ A J 8 6 2	♠ A 10 5 4 2 ♥ A K 4 ♦ Q 3 2 ♣ K 4	

S	W	N	E
1 S	Pass	2 D	Pass
3 D	Pass	3 S	Pass
4 H	Pass	5 S	All Pass

Contract: Five Spades by South
Lands: Two of clubs

Barring the 5-0 diamond break Six Spades needs little more than the trump finesse. North should have bid Four Spades over Three Diamonds — that would have described his "delayed game raise" character, ie a raise to Four Spades with a decent side-suit. With the South hand I would have bid No-Trumps over Two Diamonds. As the auction had gone, Cohen (West) thought that North-South were missing a club control, thus marking East with the king of clubs. He felt that the news he was ruffing a diamond would be clearest to East if he led the two of clubs... so the first trick went to the queen and king.

WORDWATCHING

- By Philip Howard**
- POZZY**
a. An Arizona sheriff's squad
b. A space
c. East European porcupine
- ROSEPATH**
a. A pattern used in weaving
b. Traditional English garden
c. A shade of pink
- PHONIC**
a. An addition to telephones
b. Rotor of magnetic material
c. A type of camera
- SANGA**
a. An Indian dance
b. A melancholic mood
c. An East African cow
- Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

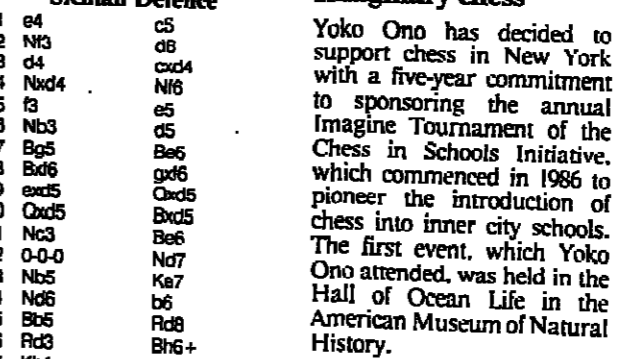
Versatile Short
Nigel Short, the British grandmaster, at one time suffered from a certain rigidity in his opening repertoire. For example, against Kasparov in their 1993 world title contest, Short always defended against 1. e4 with 1... c5. Recently, however, he has broadened his repertoire, and in the Keres Memorial tournament, which Short won overwhelmingly, he made good use of the counter-attacking Sicilian Defence. In this example, he gains the advantage of the bishop pair as Black and dispatches his opponent after a brief endgame.

White: Tarvo Seeman
Black: Nigel Short
Keres Memorial
Tallinn/Pärnu 1998

Sicilian Defence

1 e4	c5
2 Nf3	cb6
3 d4	cxd4
4 Nbd4	Nf6
5 f3	g5
6 Nb3	g5
7 Bg5	Ba6
8 Bx6	g6
9 exd5	Qxd5
10 Qxd5	Bxd5
11 Nc3	Bb6
12 O-O-O	Nd7
13 Nf5	Ka7
14 Nf6	b6
15 Bx6	Rd8
16 Rd3	Bh6+
17 Kb1	Nc8
18 Rhd1	a6
19 Bc4	Rxd6
20 Rxd6	Bxc4
21 Rxb6	Bc3

Diagram of final position



Imaginary chess
Yoko Ono has decided to support chess in New York with a five-year commitment to sponsoring the annual Imagine Tournament of the Chess in Schools Initiative, which commenced in 1986 to pioneer the introduction of chess into inner city schools. The first event, which Yoko Ono attended, which Yoko Ono attended, was held in the Hall of Ocean Life in the American Museum of Natural History.

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene
White to play. This position is from the game Gardner — Livshits, Toronto, 1998. In this complex position, White found a brilliant coup to decide the game in his favour. How did he continue?

Solution on page 46

سكوذا من الاصل

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Table of stock prices for various sectors including ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, BANKS, BREWERIES, PUBS & REST, BUILDING MATERIALS, CHEMICALS, CONSTRUCTION, DISTRIBUTORS, ELECTRICITY, ELECTRONIC & ELECT, FOOD MANUFACTURERS, HEALTHCARE, HOUSEHOLD GOODS & TEXT, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, LEISURE & HOTELS, MEDIA, MINING, OIL & GAS, OTHER FINANCIAL, PHARMACEUTICALS, PRINTING & PAPER, PROPERTY, RETAILERS, FOOD, RETAILERS, GENERAL, SUPPORT SERVICES, and WATER.

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Battle of UK

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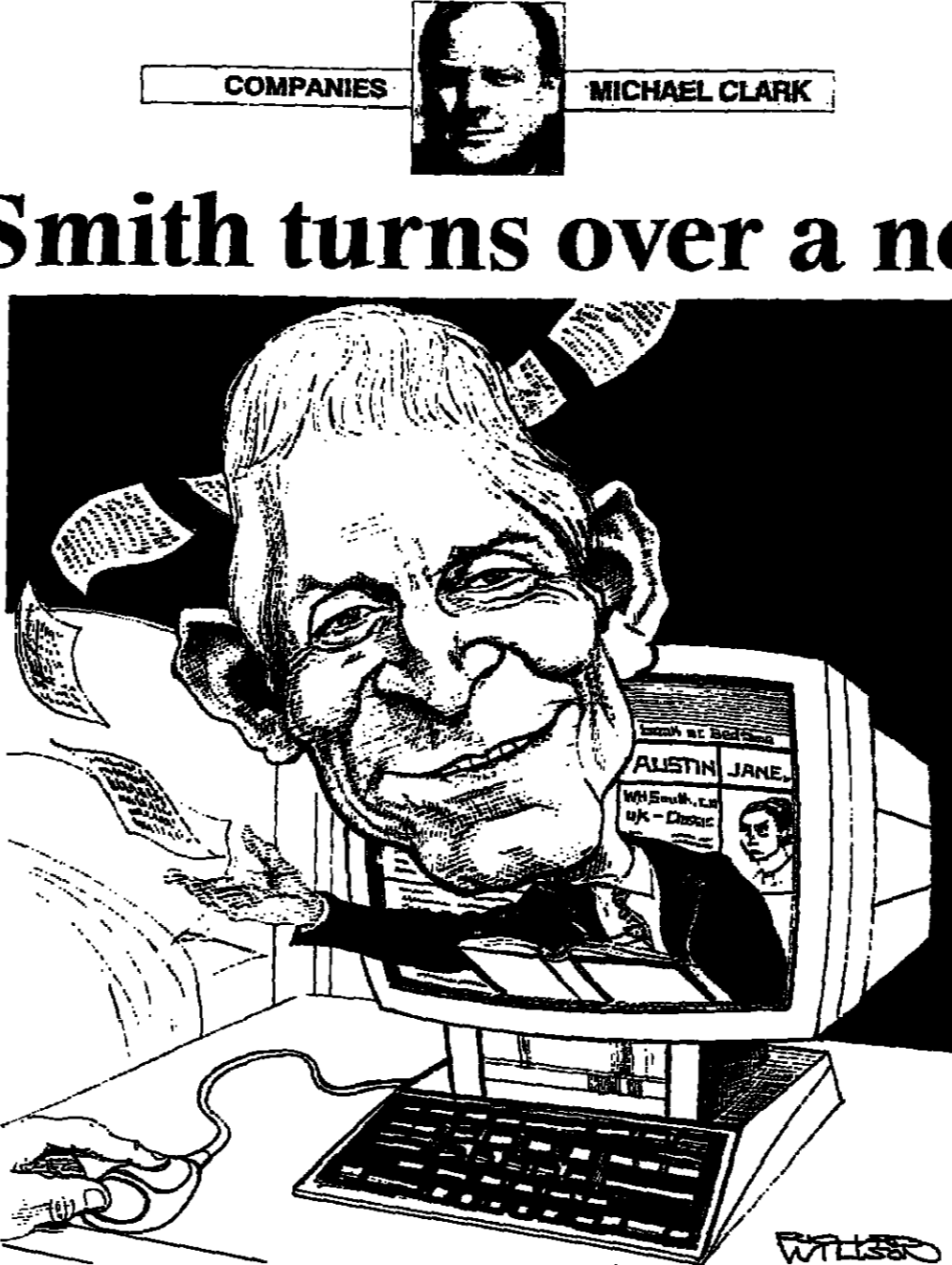
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RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY
Interims: Olim Convertible Trust, Skills Group
Finals: Ashtead Group, Border Television, Druck Holdings, JLL & Everard
Economics: UK producer prices index (June)

W H Smith turns over a new leaf

WH SMITH: Richard Handover, the new chief executive, has already received a massive vote of confidence from the City as he has begun to steer the troubled retailer back on the road to recovery.
Just one glance at the share price would serve to reassure him whenever doubts arose. Mr Handover took the reins in September and, since the start of the year, has seen the shares soar from a low of 390p to close on Friday at 550p.



Richard Handover has run a successful recovery programme since his arrival last year

have seen operating profits grow from £44 million to £46 million although profits in the current year are likely to be down in the wake of problems with contract renewals. The main retailing operation is forecast to make only a small improvement in profits to £42.5 million, but a strong performance is expected during the current year. Like-for-like sales should have increased by about 5 per cent.

11.5p making the total for the year 16.8p, an increase of 7 per cent.
FIRST TECHNOLOGY: Dummies will feature prominently when the automotive safety and sensing specialist announces its final results on Wednesday. However, these dummies are not on the board, but are the basis of the smallest of the group's two specialist divisions.
First Technology uses high-tech dummies in the simulation of car crashes, as highlighted in recent television advertisements for Volvo cars. They account for about 30 per cent of group profits and are a growing part of the business.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Bank's nerve put to the test

The raft of UK economic data this week will confirm whether the Bank of England's decision not to raise rates last Thursday implies the peak of the cycle or merely a temporary reprieve. The City believes that firm average earnings and inflation numbers will result in another rise, if not in August then when the Bank meets in September.
Tomorrow the retail prices data is expected to show underlying inflation, which excludes mortgage interest payments, slipping back slightly towards target level in June although still remaining uncomfortably high. The City consensus is that the annual rate will fall from 3.2 per cent to 3.0 per cent due to weak retail spending. Headline inflation is also expected to ease back from 4.2 per cent to 3.9 per cent. Also tomorrow, the British Retail Consortium sales monitor will provide the first clue as to how badly the high street was hit by June's bad weather.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy Alba, Pilkington, Spring Ram, Stadium, Waterfall, Weir. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Cobham, Groupe Chez Gerard, Sanctuary, Silk Industries, Helphire, Sell Orange, Carlton Communications. Independent on Sunday: Buy VideoLogic, Sell Airtrous, The Mail on Sunday: Buy Micro Focus, The Express on Sunday: Buy Aquarius, Hanson, Helicon, Mayflower, Reuters; Sell Orange.

Battle begins for control of UK benefits database

THE battle to run the central database dealing with the tax and welfare payments for everybody in the United Kingdom will start today when the new National Insurance Records System comes online.
The prize for Andersen Consulting and its rival, EDS, will be not only computing work worth an estimated £200 million a year but also a position at the centre of the Government's IT strategy.
NIRS II, as it is called, will start operating at the Contributions Agency in Newcastle today, 17 months late. Andersen Consulting, which built the £100 million system has admitted to losing more than £23 million because of delays.

Thistle calls for bidders' submissions

THISTLE HOTELS is asking potential bidders to submit indicative offers by the end of this week after concluding presentations to about a dozen prospective buyers (Dominic Walsh writes).
The interested parties are thought to include Stakis, the hotel and casino operator, and Nomura International, the Japanese securities house. A number of US parties are also in the running.
However, few of the potential buyers, including Stakis, are expected to bid for the entire 91-strong group, and most observers believe that a break-up is the likeliest outcome. Thistle, currently capitalised at £1.4 billion, is being advised on the sale by Greenhill & Co of the US.

Boeing admits growing delays

BOEING'S production problems have become worse not better, contrary to suggestions last week from the world's largest aerospace group.
The company has admitted that the amount of work behind schedule at its 747 plant has doubled since November. In October, Boeing was forced to shut down 747 and 737 assembly lines for almost a month because of shortages and mix-ups.
The company, fighting to retain its good reputation on Wall Street, has also had to admit that overtime is rising again. It partly blamed the new problems on the rise in orders for 747 freighters, which are more difficult to build than passenger jets. However, at a monthly briefing last week, Ron Woodard, head of the aeroplane division, told investors: "We are making progress on deliveries and stabilising production."
The company said deliveries would not be delayed despite the rising overtime. Boeing has won additional breathing space because some Asian customers have been unable to pay for aircraft that they ordered.
The problems at Boeing are the result of the merger with McDonnell Douglas and an attempt to double output. But its suppliers and its workforce could not keep up with the pace set by Mr Woodard.

THE POUND

Table with exchange rates for US dollar, German mark, and Exchange index.

STOCK MARKET

Table with FT 30 share index, New York Dow Jones, and Tokyo Nikkei Avge.

TOURIST RATES

Table with tourist rates for various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, etc.

Large table titled 'ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET' containing financial data for various companies including AstraZeneca, BHP, British Airways, etc.

CORPORATE PROFILE: Alliance & Leicester



Trevor Hilliard, top left, managing director of Alliance & Leicester retail financial services, Peter White, top right, group chief executive; one of the demutualised building society's high street outlets, which face new competitors; and Richard Banks, managing director of A&L's Girobank

THE FACTS

Market cap: £4.7 billion
Operating profit before tax and exceptional: £423 million
Pre-tax profit after exceptional: £395 million
Shareholders' funds: £1.68 billion (1996: £1.56 billion)

Overview: Building society-turned-bank, with activities in mortgage lending and investments; personal banking including current accounts; commercial banking; treasury business.

THE BOARD

Alliance & Leicester's chief executive, Peter White, 55, is a building society man through and through. A chartered accountant and former rugby player, he joined the building society movement 27 years ago under Sir Cive Thornton at Abbey National. He completed two years as chairman of the Council of Mortgage Lenders in January 1988 and is a director of Rickett & Colman.

By contrast, Simon Everard, non-executive chairman, is an industrialist of many years' experience including the chairmanship of Ellis & Everard, which has chemical distribution and trading interests in Europe and the US. He is a director of Croda International. The bank's two non-executive deputy chairmen come from very different backgrounds. John Winkler, who has experience in international securities markets, succeeds John Baden who retires next month. Sir Michael Thompson is a distinguished physicist and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Birmingham.

Richard Pym, group finance director, is a chartered accountant with a background in retail and industry, having worked at Burton and BAT Industries. Richard Banks is managing director of Girobank, and Trevor Hilliard is managing director of A&L's retail financial services.

Frances Cairncross is director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research and is public editor of *The Economist*.

Nicholas Corah has experience in the electricity industry. Peter Barton, a corporate lawyer and investment banker, became a non-executive director in May.

The past 12 months have been eventful for Alliance & Leicester. When the building society demutualised last April, its shares were launched at 533p into a raging bull market. The banking sector was enjoying a spectacular run and, during the months that followed, A&L's shares increased by almost 80 per cent. Much of the rise was prompted by rumours that A&L was the most likely takeover target among the building societies that converted last spring and summer.

Since the beginning of March, however, the shares of the newly converted banks, Halifax, Woolwich and Northern Rock, have been sliding downwards as fears about competition in core markets and a slowdown in the economy have depressed demand. The bears argue that banks and building societies face high costs in lending money and aggressive newcomers could clean up the market if they chose to do so.

For A&L, it has been a harsh lesson in how it is possible to be a stock market darling one minute and the subject of an analyst's critical note the next. After peaking at 964p at the end of February, the stock closed at 813p on Friday.

A&L's management team, led by Peter White, group chief executive, is seen by the City as commercially minded and "incredibly aggressive". Analysts like recent announcements on cost savings and are pleased by A&L's gradual transformation from building society underperformer to a lender converted bank. Some, however, feel that management ambition will leave the bank with more than burnt fingers if and when the UK suffers an economic downturn.

One analyst remarked: "They are very *gang-bro* about venturing into areas of high risk like consumer credit. All of their personal finance business is basically unsecured personal lending and unless A&L have somehow discovered the Holy Grail of credit, then they are taking a big risk."

The fear is that A&L's quest for growth has led it to pursue new personal loan and credit card customers, rather than trying to lend to existing customers, who have a credit track record and can be more effectively assessed for risk.

"They are in the middle of *blanket advertising* for their personal lending," one City expert remarked. "Shake a

magazine and an A&L personal loan insert will fall out. It is a risky business."

A&L is now ranked as the eleventh-largest quoted UK bank group. It hinted recently that it would welcome a merger with its fellow converted building society, Woolwich, while acknowledging that if it were to announce such a deal, both societies would be vulnerable to predators. If they remain independent, both former societies have a five-year protection clause preventing unwanted approaches.

The old A&L had a tradition of *mutuality* that stretched back 144 years. One half of the society began life as the Leicester Permanent Benefit Society in 1853. The other half started life in 1863 as the Brighton & Sussex Equitable Building Society. The latter changed its name in 1945 to the Alliance Building Society, having merged with six other

societies between 1936 and 1939. The Alliance Building Society merged with the Leicester in 1985 to become the Alliance & Leicester Building Society. In 1990 the A&L group acquired Girobank and in 1996 the A&L Building Society announced its intention to

seek a listing on the London Stock Exchange.

Last year the A&L's argument for conversion from mutual to plc was driven by its need to raise capital in an increasingly competitive mortgage and savings market. The traditional dominance of

building societies is now being challenged by supermarket banks and life insurers.

Competition has, if anything, intensified since A&L's conversion last year and the new banks that rely heavily on mortgage business have a tough time ahead, according to John-Paul Crutchley, an analyst with Credit Lyonnais Securities Europe. He described the sector as being "characterised by over-capacity, low growth, unrelenting competition and ongoing margin erosion."

The share price also rose because big *institutional* investors were underweight in the sector and desperate to get hold of the stock, but all the shares had gone to individual members of the society. Now 55 per cent of the company is held by retail investors and 45 per cent by institutions.

Rob Down, an analyst in ABN Amro Hoare Govett, also

sees low growth in the mortgage market as a problem.

"There has been a rise in cash incentives with mortgages this year, which has caused a margin squeeze," he said. "There is not a lot of money to be made out of mortgages."

J Sainsbury and Tesco have been offering high interest rates on instant access accounts, which have forced the rest of the financial services industry to offer savings accounts at rates that have greatly squeezed margins.

Mr Down said: "Savings accounts are paying 7.5 to 8 per cent, and that is above the wholesale rate."

Trevor Hilliard, 53, A&L's managing director of retail financial services, argues that the mortgage market will continue to grow "because young people will still aspire to owning their own home". He believes that the key to success in such a competitive market is service

MARIANNE CURPHEY

OUR VERDICT

Ethical expression	4/10
Fast-cast quotients	8/10
Financial record	7/10
Share performance	7/10
Attitude to employees	7/10
Strength of brand	6/10
Innovation	6/10
Annual report	8/10
City star rating	5/10
Future prospects	6/10
Total	64/100

Ethical expression is evaluated by Integrity Works. The fast-cast quotient, in which best boardroom pay practice scores highest, is provided by "Crisp Consulting."

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

"The mortgage market is only growing by 5 per cent and within that market the converted banks are losing market share. In the late 1980s there was growth of more than 20 per cent as owner occupation increased rapidly. That has now peaked and the Halifax is only forecasting growth in mortgage lending of between 5 and 6 per cent in the next five years."

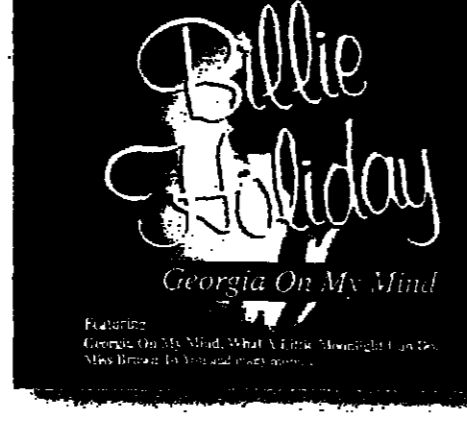
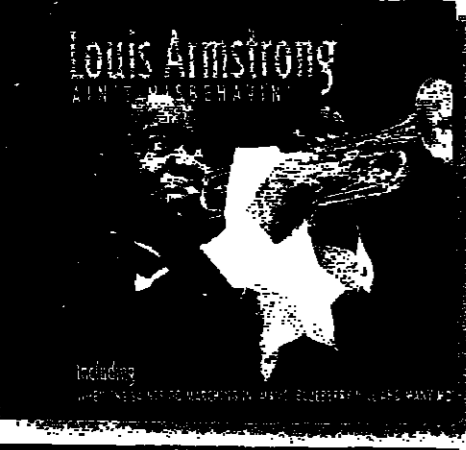
Rob Dow, ABN Amro Hoare Govett.

"Alliance & Leicester is the most diversified of the converted building societies. In common with the others, its strategy is to continue diversifying because the mortgage market growth has not kept pace with the growth of the 1980s. However, it is a small player and there is a question over its long-term future."

David Reye, HSBC Securities

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CHANGING TIMES

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Enjoy your pay rise while you can. The rate of increase of average earnings must either come down of its own accord or it will be hammered down by painfully high interest rates. Last week's decision by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to leave rates on hold was a welcome relief, and today's news on producer prices should support continued restraint. It will probably provide further evidence that in manufacturing at least the looming prospect is not inflation but deflation.

Watching wage inflation like a hawk

32 per cent, matched by an almost equally dire figure for price inflation. But it has been a slow and painful grind down. Pay was still increasing at more than 20 per cent in the autumn of 1980, more than a year after Mrs Thatcher came to power. After a lag, however, it collapsed in response to the recession.



ROGER BOOTLE

Yet this point can also be overdone. We have just been through a period of strong economic growth and sharply falling unemployment. In these conditions you would expect pay inflation to be above its long-run sustainable rate. Yes, there has to be some downward adjustment from current levels but it may well come of its own accord without any further nudges from the MPC.

strong exchange rate, then next year's awards should be a good deal smaller. Meanwhile, consolidation among banks and securities houses, and weaker asset markets, should undermine earnings growth in the City.

For given the increased flexibility of the labour market, with weaker demand in the economy, both employers and employees should be wise to the dangers of wages being driven up to preserve differentials.

British business confidence falls to five-year low

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR

BRITISH business confidence has dropped to its lowest level for at least five years with slowdown evident across all sectors of the economy, according to the latest survey by Dun & Bradstreet.

Philip Mellor, Dun & Bradstreet's senior analyst, said: "As more and more firms expect further increases in interest rates, so business gloom has spread from exporters into the domestic economy."

Only half the respondents said that they expected to increase exports, the same proportion as in 1991.

Poll attacks Brown on investment tax

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR

BRITISH business overwhelmingly disagrees with the Chancellor's assertion last July that abolishing the ACT tax credit on dividends and reducing the rate of corporation tax would increase the amount of capital available for investment.

cent of the 326 companies polled said they would not make any difference to investment and 8 per cent said that investment would be lower.

OEF's current forecast is for just one more 0.25 per cent increase in base rates, slowing economic growth to 2.3 per cent in 1999. This, it said, would be enough to keep inflation close to its target.



Percy Lomax believes that sheep's milk could help to treat sufferers from Alzheimer's disease

ReGen seeks £2.5m backing

By PAUL DURMAN

THE backers of a new treatment for Alzheimer's disease, developed in Poland and based on the milk given to newborn lambs, are seeking £2.5 million of City funding.

Tests in Poland suggest that ReGen's Colostrin — derived from the nutrient-rich colostrum produced by ewes — can enable patients to recover from Alzheimer's, which largely defeats existing drugs.

European or American authorities. The degree of recovery in two of the Colostrin treated patients was so large that there is some doubt as to whether the patients actually had [Alzheimer's disease].

Greenalls to develop health clubs chain

By DOMINIC WALSH

GREENALLS, the pub operator that owns the De Vere and Village Leisure hotel chains, will this week announce plans to develop a stand-alone health and fitness chain called Greens.

acquire sites with around 3.5 acres at a cost per club of between £4 million and £7 million apiece. They will serve some 5,000 members and create 50 jobs; the aim is to achieve a return of 17 per cent.

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FIRST CLASS		
NEW YORK	£1155	NEW ZEALAND*£2495
DUBAI	£1590	AUSTRALIA £2511
BANGKOK	£2320	JOHANNESBURG £2940

* based on two passengers travelling

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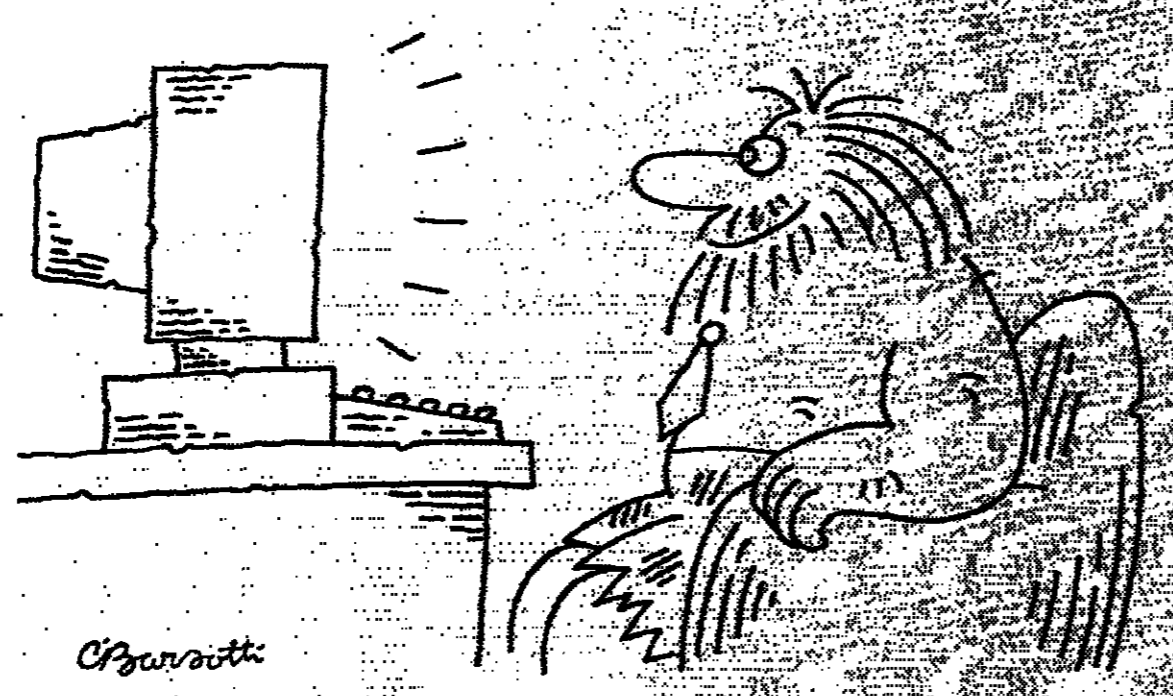
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COMPANIES 43

A successful Handover at WH Smith

BUSINESS

PROFILE 44 The hard road ahead for a former society



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY JULY 13 1998

Monsanto signs up Third World leaders for adverts

BY CARL MORTFISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

MONSANTO, the US agrochemical company, is yet again stirring up controversy by signing up political leaders in the Third World in its campaign to gain acceptance worldwide for genetically modified food products.

Uganda; Julius Nyerere, the former Tanzanian leader; and Graça Machel, widow of Samora Machel, the former Mozambique leader, and companion of Nelson Mandela — to seek their endorsement of a Monsanto advertising campaign in support of the use of biotechnology in food.

abundance of food in Europe and North America with hunger in the rest of the world and concludes: "Biotechnology is one of tomorrow's tools in our hands today. Slowing its acceptance is a luxury our hungry world cannot afford."

already secured the support of Oscar Arias, Nobel prizewinner and former president of Costa Rica, and other politicians in Asia and Africa. Former cabinet ministers of Ghana and Sierra Leone and an ex-director of the African Development Bank are also believed to have signed up.

firm involved, Global Business Access, is made up of former US State Department personnel and claims 140 former ambassadors among its staff as well as former "intelligence officers".

Monsanto told him to leave regulation to the regulators. Environmental lobbyists have more temporal concerns, fearing that Monsanto will use biotechnology to gain control of huge swaths of world agriculture.

might undermine their campaigns. Monsanto's stock price has risen almost sixfold during the past five years, raising its market value from \$6 billion (£3.6 billion) to \$33 billion. It is keen to spread good news about genetic engineering but it is less open about how much money its own business makes.

Prescott plans 50,000 jobs in UK coal areas

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN PRESCOTT, the Deputy Prime Minister, will today back plans to create more than 50,000 new jobs in Britain's old mining towns, including the establishment of a "millennium village" in a former northern coalfield.

end of mining in many areas had led to "extremely rapid cultural change, leaving behind concentrated joblessness, physical isolation, poor infrastructure and severe health problems".

will aim to create 5,000 jobs a year for 10 years, largely by attracting service industries. Businesses will be attracted by offering grants and better infrastructure. There will also be a coalfield enterprise fund for business start-ups and expansion.



Ryutaro Hashimoto is expected to resign after the Liberal Democratic Party's losses

Japan faces yen crisis as polls close

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE shocking election losses suffered by Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and widespread expectations that Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, will be forced to resign are likely to put renewed pressure on the yen and Japanese shares today.

Thursday, as planned, to discuss tax reform. Mr Kato said that the party would carry out its proposal for a bridge bank to take over the bad debts of troubled Japanese banks. This is supposed to be put to an emergency session of parliament starting late this month, with enabling legislation planned by the autumn.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: 1. Chemist's shop (8), 5. Crude painting (4), 8. Easily fooled (8), 9. Turn rapidly (4), 11. Play chords casually (5), 12. Burdensome (7), 13. Harsh, demanding (6), 15. Protect (6), 18. A mishmash (7), 19. Element B (5), 21. Part: neat (4), 22. Area of semi-shadow (8), 23. Owl's cry (4), 24. Aircraft, computer-game control (8)

Demerger risk for Selfridges

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM, RETAIL CORRESPONDENT SELFRIDGES, the department store group whose demerger from Sears will be put to a vote this Friday, could face a very brief life as an independent company, according to a report out today.

UK book sales set to soar

Britain's book market will grow by 20 per cent over the next five years and will be worth £3.3 billion by 2002, according to a report today.

Euro deposit rules 'will hurt UK banks'

NEW European Central Bank rules governing minimum reserve requirements of banks within the euro-zone could cost British banks the equivalent of £1,000 for every adult in the UK, according to John Redwood, Shadow President of the Board of Trade.

Sainsbury opens

J Sainsbury will tomorrow open the doors of its first "Sainsbury's Local" store, the first in a new generation of grocery shops designed to reclaim the high street and rival the success of Tesco Metro.

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Blockitt for President — still

COMMENTARY

by our City Editor



They are dancing on the boardroom tables and ordering champagne at the Savoy Grill, strolling during even the most turgid Glyndebourne opera and plumping for the most expensive Havana cigars. And why? Because the rumour mill has it that Tony Blair's first major reshuffle since coming to power will see the removal of Margaret Beckett as President of the Board of Trade.

Mrs Beckett has been seen as an enemy of business; a capricious operator who is as likely to stamp on a good idea as adopt one. She is seen as too close to the trade unions, too fond of old-style Labour interventionism and too often at one with Karel Van Miert, the much-hated European Competition Commissioner. In other words, Mrs Blockitt is just the sort of Labour dinosaur that Blairism was supposed to have rendered extinct.

But before the Bolly corks are popped, business might consider that the devil they know might not be as bad as the devil they don't. Mrs Blockitt is, in some ways, the Michael Heseltine of Labour. She has a power base in parts of the party that new Labour finds difficult to reach, has views that differ from the frontbench hegemony and thinks that President of the Board of Trade is an end in itself rather than a stepping stone to higher office. She might be unresponsive to business, but it is noticeable that in all the fallout from

the Derek Draper affair, there has been no suggestion that the DTI has been leaking confidential documents or being influenced by lobbyists.

If the Whitehall tom-toms are to be believed, Mrs Beckett's successor is said to be Peter Mandelson. This move would give the Shane Warne of political spin-doctors a real job to do. He has shown he does listen to business leaders, or at least to their marketing representatives. He is a man who likes to give the impression of action — whether he is achieving something or not, and whether the action he is taking has been properly thought through, or not. He also walks in Heseltine's shadow, being one of the three people in the country who genuinely believe in the Millennium Dome (the third being Robert Ayling), and being quite willing to use Heseltine-like arm-twisting to achieve his ends.

President Pete, though, does not think that the DTI is anything other than a superhighway to one of the top posts — Foreign or Home Secretary, maybe even Chancellor. And one day... Prime Minister Mandelson. If anybody thinks the rows Beckett had with Brown over the minimum wage were bad, wait until

Mandelson and Brown start sniping at each other over economic policy.

Much as business would like to wave goodbye to Margaret Beckett, do they want the situation that existed under the Tories, where new bosses at the DTI were more frequent than number 19 buses? Should she go, we need someone who wants the job and will stay there for three, four or five years, not a temporary President Pete.

Bear hard put to entice the bulls

Relative power is crucial when countries need the support of Washington financial institutions. The western-generated Asian crash provided a great opportunity to put the tigers in their place, behind bars. As a result, the world economy will lose hundreds of billions of dollars in 1998-2000, to

everyone's cost. Pakistan so annoyed America by matching India's nuclear tests that it is being squeezed into insolvency.

Boris Yeltsin's chaps, by contrast, must be supported even if their economy is no great player on the world stage. Russians have loads of nuclear weapons, which must not fall into the hands of nasty new populists.

So Russia will receive many more dollars than expected, with a near-promise that the wallet will stay open. Even for Russia, there are now the usual conditions, including such seeming irrelevances to the IMF as improvements in corporate governance. These conditions are designed to strengthen the hand of Mr Yeltsin's appointees, forcing the elected Duma to pass their proposals before the cheques arrive.

We can only hope that the Duma takes the hint and that this potential power struggle does not come to the test. The

incentives are the World Bank providing cash for the poorest, the IMF insisting on delayed payments being met and savers being able to convert useless paper into dollars.

Russia has received favour from Washington but that does not mean that it will be enough. If the IMF's projections are borne out, Russia should just meet the Maastricht limit for a current budget deficit in 1999. Given the Government's inability to collect taxes from those who can afford to pay, this looks optimistic. Nor is it clear that the reforms will reverse the country's predilection for doing financial deals rather than getting goods made competitively.

The outcome is again likely to depend on outside investors and speculators, because domestic savers' attitudes to, say, government bonds are likely to take some time to catch up with reality. Portfolio investors and lenders will be lobbied hard to

return. In spite of yesterday's 10 per cent recovery in shares and the prospect of a firmer rouble and much lower interest rates, emerging markets investors have many burnt fingers to nurse. Speculators should lay low for a while. Asian experience suggest they may raid again later, reckoning even Washington's favour not enough.

Red ink spilled on the carpet

If that nasty stain on your front room carpet is particularly irritating, don't buy a rug to cover it up. Pop down to Allied Carpets and re-do the room. The summer sale will be something to behold, as the company's auditors, Arthur Andersen (who also audited Wickes by the way), have found the equivalent of 12,500 rooms worth of carpet lying in the warehouses, supposedly sold.

Whether Allied's accounting policies are more prudent than those of rivals like Carpetright is a mute point, but it would have been nice of the company to use the same accounting policies all the way through the group.

The accounting irregularities

at Allied can only add to what is promising to be a bloody summer for retailing. As the British Retail Consortium figures show, poor weather is not conducive to buying summer clothes, shoppers have been at home watching Iran versus Germany rather than buying household goods, and everyone (apart from members of the MPC) is worried about interest rates. Unless there is some pick-up as the summer progresses there is going to be quite a bit of red ink being split over quoted companies' figures, and some smaller retailers could be going under.

The aggressive sales of the next few weeks, coupled with some good weather (for heaven's sake), might ease the pain and might also hold back inflationary pressures. So please, please, please, ladies and gentlemen of the MPC, stop putting up interest rates for everyone's sake.

Nissan dorma

IT IS an ill wind, but there must be some inland Revenue investigators who cracked a wry smile when they heard of Octav Botnar's death. It means that his civil case against the Revenue will cease. The ex-Nissan UK boss will not have his day in court and we will never know why the Revenue continued to prosecute an ailing octogenarian after securing successful convictions against two of his former business partners.

Coca-Cola Beverages sparkles on debut

BY RACHEL BRIDGE

COCA-COLA Beverages made a sparkling debut on the stock exchange with its shares rising 9p above its float price to close at 169p on the first day of trading.

The float, which values the new company at almost £1.8 billion, was the first time that British investors had been given the chance to buy into a slice of the multi-billion-dollar Coca-Cola empire.

Neville Isdell, chairman and chief executive of Coca-Cola Beverages, said: "The response from investors has been tremendous. They have shared our vision for the newly listed company."

Coca-Cola Beverages, which was created to bring together the European assets of Coca-Cola Amatil, the Australian soft drinks bottler, and the Italian bottling operations acquired from the American parent, the Coca-Cola Company, will have a market population of almost 200 million in 13 countries.

Industry analysts said yesterday that demand for the shares, which were almost 13 times oversubscribed, had been heightened by the small number available after just 13.4 per cent of the company was offered for sale in an institutional placing. After the float the Coca-Cola Company will hold a stake of around 50.5 per cent of Coca-Cola Beverages.

Coca-Cola Beverages shares will also be listed on the Australian stock exchange today.

Colt Telecom seeks £600m to bolster rapid expansion

BY ROBERT COLE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

COLT TELECOM, whose shares are currently riding high as one of the stock market's favourites, hopes to raise £600 million to fund its rapid expansion.

The company, which has yet to make any profits, and which is not expected to make money for several years, hopes to raise the £600 million in three tranches. Colt wants to get a third of the new £600 million in a rights issue, a third issuing convertible bonds, and the rest issuing conventional bonds.

The company said yesterday that its already ambitious plans to build small City centre telecoms networks for business use are being extended. Colt has pledged itself to have 12 networks operating by the end of this year. Yesterday

it said it wants to have double that number up and running by the end of the year 2000.

Colt currently has networks operating in London, Paris, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Munich, Berlin, Zurich and Amsterdam. Services in Brussels, Düsseldorf, Madrid and Milan are set to open by the end of this year. Barcelona, Cologne, Geneva, Stuttgart and Vienna are also in Colt's sights.

Paul Chisholm, chief executive, said: "We believe the size and growth potential of the European telecoms markets coupled with continued liberalisation provide considerable opportunity for further expansion."

Colt Telecom has been the best performing share this year. The price had risen from



David Southworth, the chairman, said Skillsgroup was experiencing an increase in demand

Skillsgroup sell-off plan starts acquisition strategy

BY OUR CITY STAFF

SKILLSGROUP, the information technology group formerly known as P&P, yesterday put its PSL distribution company up for sale as part of plans to make acquisitions. The company currently has two businesses, QA Group and Acuma.

The company turned in pre-tax profits of £6.6 million in the six months to the end of May, against £6.5 million in the previous first half. The

half-year dividend rises from 1.3p to 1.5p out of earnings unchanged at 5.8p. The group ended the year with net cash of £13.9 million.

David Southworth, chairman, said: "The QA Group and Acuma... have experienced strong demand in the first six months of the year. We expect this trend to continue for the remainder of 1998 in line with increasing market demand."

The shares fell from 296½p to 282½p.

QA Group provides IT services, including training, contracting, recruitment and consulting, while Acuma provides systems and technology integration services.

On acquisitions, Mr Southworth said: "We've got quite deep pockets now, so obviously we would look at small or large acquisitions. It will be whatever fits the strategy."

Partco rejects merger proposal

BY TIMON DAY

PARTCO, the automotive parts distributor, has given Finelist Group, its acquisitive rival, the cold shoulder over plans to merge and create a £400 million group with a 17 per cent share of the car parts market.

Chris Swan, Finelist chairman, wants to meet his counterparts, Gordon Yardley and Phil Wragg of Partco, to "discuss ways the two companies might co-operate in the light of current trends within the automotive aftermarket".

But Mr Wragg ruled out any informal discussions. "The proper way of doing it is to put something down in writing rather than get involved in talks that are going nowhere."

He said: "The two companies look the same but are actually quite different. Partco has developed as a distributor, while Finelist is a more vertically integrated business taking in both distribution and manufacturing interests."

Finelist is unlikely to mount a hostile takeover bid as its balance sheet is stretched with debts nearing twice shareholders' funds. But an all-share merger at only a small premium would boost earnings per share as overheads would be cut by more than £2 million and purchasing costs would fall.

Shares in Partco fell by a quarter to 194p last month after a warning at the annual shareholders' meeting that first-half profits would be below market expectations though they would improve after that.

They have now recovered to 234p on bid speculation. Finelist shares fell 4p yesterday to 292p.

Ashtead confident as new sites boost profit

BY ADAM JONES

ASHTHEAD, the plant hire group, increased pre-tax profits by 32 per cent after massive expansion last year.

Ashtead added 94 new sites in the UK and US, making a total of 275, and profits rose to £37.3 million in the year to April 30, before an exceptional charge of £1.8 million relating to the purchase of Sheriff, a UK competitor. Sales rose 37 per cent to £202.5 million.

George Burnett, managing

director, said the rate of site expansion may slow this year but Ashtead is still bullish about its prospects. Turnover in May and June was up 47 per cent on 1997.

Mr Burnett said the UK construction market was strong, with Private Finance Initiative and lottery-funded work: "It's the strongest market we have seen in the 1990s."

Peter Lewis, the chairman, said the group would like to

have a listing in the US although it has shied away from buying companies there as the US plant hire industry consolidates.

Earnings per share were 10p (8p) despite the issue of 25 million shares — 9 per cent of capital — to buy Sheriff last September. A final dividend of 1.88p per share makes a total of 2.3p (1.82p) for the year.

Tempus, page 28

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STOCK MARKET

FRASER NEILSON

FTSE pushed towards 6,000 as error lifts A&L

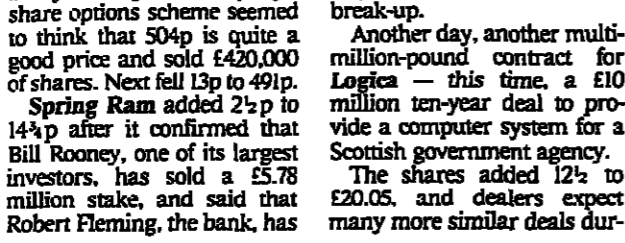
DEALERS were given an early morning jolt yesterday when shares of Alliance & Leicester...



Courts, the furniture retailer that has dropped Bruce Forsyth from adverts...

The exceptional bull run of E D & F Man paused yesterday as the agriculture and financial company went ex-dividend...

THE MORNING AFTER



AS IF nerves in the pubs sector had were not sufficiently frayed by last month's profits warning...

MAJOR INDICES

Table listing major stock indices from New York to London, including Dow Jones, Nikkei Average, and FTSE 100.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing various financial products and their prices, such as Advance Dev Mkx, Anglo Siberian Oil, and British Regal Air.

RIGHTS ISSUES

Table listing shares with rights issues, including Cox Instruc n/p (400), First Choice n/p (130), and LEPCO n/p (40).

TEMPUS The commodity trap. The chief attraction of Ellis & Everard shares is the yield. The total 10.6p payment net of tax for last year equates to a historic gross yield of nearly 4.9 per cent.

AShtead ASHTEAD is a plant hire group that thinks of itself as an "outsourcing" specialist. It provides "solutions" to customers such as Ford who want to rent all their power generators...

Glynwed GLYNWED INTERNATIONAL has been an awful investment, the shares halving since 1993. Will new management and reams of deals rejuvenate the moribund engineer?

Aggregate Inds SINCE Bardon and Camas merged to form Aggregate Industries last year, the quarrying group has served its shareholders well and has comfortably outpaced the broader market.



Japan as the... Stark... Various advertisements and headlines on the far right side of the page.

Table with 4 columns: COCOA, WHITE SUGAR (FOB), MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION. Shows prices for various commodities.

Table with 2 columns: ICIS-LONDON (6.00ppm), PRODUCTS (N/W). Shows prices for crude oils and other products.

Table with 2 columns: LIFE OPTIONS, LONDON METAL EXCHANGE. Shows prices for various metals and options.

Table with 2 columns: GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES, RUBBER (No 1 RSS C/F 10/4). Shows prices for grain futures and rubber.

Table with 2 columns: Long Gilt, Italian Govt Bond (BTP), Japanese Govt Bond (JGB). Shows bond prices and yields.

Table with 2 columns: Prime Bank Bills (6m), FSE 100, Local Authority Dept. Shows various financial instrument prices.

Table with 2 columns: Base Rates, Treasury Bills, Prime Bank Bills. Shows interest rates and yields.

Table with 2 columns: EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%), CURRENCY. Shows deposit rates and exchange rates.

Table with 2 columns: DOLLAR RATES, OTHER STERLING. Shows dollar exchange rates and other sterling-related rates.

Table with 2 columns: FISE VOLUMES, GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co). Shows trading volumes and metal prices.

Table with 2 columns: WALL STREET, MONEY RATES. Shows Wall Street indices and money rates.

Table with 2 columns: EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%), CURRENCY. Shows deposit rates and exchange rates.

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Table with 2 columns: EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%), CURRENCY. Shows deposit rates and exchange rates.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 'هذا من الاصل' (This is from the original).

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Table of equity prices for various sectors including ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, BANKS, BREWERIES, PUBS & REST, BUILDING MATERIALS, CHEMICALS, CONSTRUCTION, DISTRIBUTORS, and others.

Table of equity prices for sectors including ENGINEERING VEHICLES, FOOD MANUFACTURERS, HEALTHCARE, HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT, and INSURANCE.

Table of equity prices for sectors including INVESTMENT TRUSTS, LEISURE & HOTELS, OIL & GAS, RETAILERS FOOD, and RETAILERS GENERAL.

Table of equity prices for sectors including MEDIA, MINING, PROPERTY, TRANSPORT, and WATER.

Table of equity prices for sectors including PHARMACEUTICALS, PRINTING & PAPER, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, and other miscellaneous categories.

Table of equity prices for sectors including ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET, FUND PERFORMANCE (SHORTS, LONGS, UNDATED, MEDIUMS), and INDEX-LINKED.

Main table of equity prices for various companies, including Anglo American, Anglo Coal, Anglo Gold, Anglo Irish, Anglo Petroleum, Anglo Telecom, Anglo Water, Anglo Zinc, Anglo Cement, Anglo Steel, Anglo Paper, Anglo Glass, Anglo Textiles, Anglo Chemicals, Anglo Pharmaceuticals, Anglo Media, Anglo Mining, Anglo Property, Anglo Transport, Anglo Water, Anglo Retailers, Anglo Alternative, Anglo Funds, Anglo Index-Linked, Anglo Retailers Food, Anglo Retailers General, Anglo Alternative Inv Market, Anglo Funds, Anglo Index-Linked, Anglo Retailers Food, Anglo Retailers General, Anglo Alternative Inv Market.

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust prices, organized by fund name, with columns for bid, offer, and other financial metrics.

LE TEMPS CHANEL advertisement featuring a diamond watch and text: 'THE MATILDE COLLECTION STEEL AND DIAMOND WATCH WATER RESISTANT TO 30 METRES - SAPPHIRE CRYSTAL'.

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► **Legal Adviser** IN-HOUSE Heris
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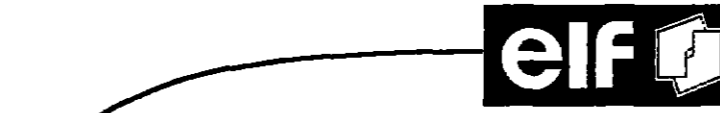
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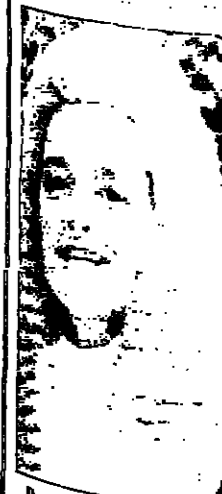
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Sir Jeremiah Harman, left, Judge Bruce Campbell and Lord Widgery: some of their actions prompted more than a raised eyebrow

Judging the judges

Criticism of the handling of a libel case has reopened debate on how and by whom High Court judges should be disciplined, writes Frederick Lawton

Last week Mr Justice French came in for criticism after Albert Reynolds, the former Irish Prime Minister, won the right to a retrial of his libel action. The judge — who took on the case shortly after a heart bypass operation — had confused the jury with his "unstructured" summing up. The Lord Chief Justice said. The case resurrects debate over how judges can be disciplined. High Court judges can be dismissed only by a motion of both Houses of Parliament — a procedure so cumbersome it has never been used for an English judge since its creation in 1701. In practice, judges are informally called to account by the Lord Chancellor for major misdemeanours and by senior judges — heads of High Court divisions — for lesser ones. Everything is done in secret, with courtesy and usually in the

form of fraternal advice. The worst that can come — as may have been done with Sir Jeremiah Harman after his "intolerable" delay in producing a judgment — is an exhortation to resign. Light on how judges are disciplined was shed in 1993 in a book by Robert Stevens. *The Independence of the Judiciary*. Files in the Lord Chancellor's Department showed that Lord Chancellors have often adopted a schoolmasterish attitude towards High Court judges and given wiggings to county court judges. They were particularly sensitive about judges making remarks they considered political or controversial. In 1954,

Mr Justice Lloyd-Jacob, a well-meaning high churchman, wrote a letter to *The Times* about the morality of using the hydrogen bomb. Lord Stammers, then Lord Chancellor, wrote a stinging letter of rebuke, saying the letter was a deplorable incursion into a realm of controversial politics and a "breach of your duty as a judge". The resignation of Mr Justice Harman in February is only the second occasion this century when a High Court judge was under pressure to resign — in his case, arising from the Court of Appeal's criticisms rather than any request by the Lord Chancellor. In 1939, similar criticisms led to

Lord Kilmuir asking for Mr Justice Hallett's resignation. So the Court of Appeal has an important if informal function in disciplining judges. In hearing appeals, it learns how judges are behaving and refers to such happenings in its judgments. Lord Widgery, when Lord Chief Justice, suggested that reprehensible behaviour should not normally be mentioned in judgments but referred to him (if the miscreant was a High Court judge) or to a presiding judge of circuit. With circuit judges, Lord Chancellors have statutory power to dismiss for misconduct or incapacity. It has been exercised once this century: by

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, when Judge Campbell admitted smuggling whisky and cigarettes. Lord Mackay of Clashfern made clear he would take a severe view of circuit judges convicted of drink-drive. They can expect now to be dismissed, and High Court judges asked to resign. But getting High Court judges to retire when age or illness makes them unfit to sit has long been embarrassing. Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, presented Lord Hailsham with such a problem: he did not appreciate that illness had seriously impaired his considerable mental ability. Now, to some extent the problem has been overcome by the retiring age being lowered to 70. But how and by whom our judges are monitored is certain to come under renewed scrutiny. ● Sir Frederick is a retired Lord Justice of Appeal.

Journalists lose war on the judiciary

In 1900, the Editor of the *Birmingham Daily Argus* was fined £100 for contempt of court by publishing an article which described Mr Justice Darling as an "impudent little man in horsehair, a microcosm of conceit and empty-headedness". The most recent conviction in England for what is known as "scandalising the judiciary" was in 1931, when the Editor of the magazine *Truth* was fined for accusing Lord Justice Slesser of bias. A judgment by the Hong Kong High Court last month shows the continuing vitality of this branch of the law of contempt in extreme cases of journalistic abuse of judges.

The *Oriental Daily News* is the most popular newspaper in Hong Kong. At the end of 1997, it became aggrieved by judgments given against it by the local courts in various cases. So it began to use its columns to pursue a campaign against the judiciary. The newspaper is published in Chinese, and Chief Justice Chan (who has the benefit of being bilingual) noted in the judgment of the court that while the English translations are literally accurate, they do not fully convey "the flavour of the originals". The articles referred to "judicial scumbags", "white skinned pigs" and "British white ghosts" who were "evil remnants of the British Hong Kong Government". The judges were "street rats who are being spat on and cursed every day". They wore "designer briefs that conceal their deficiencies and expose the ringworm, scabies and syphilis that they have hidden under their solemn black gowns".

As well as crude abuse and allegations of political bias, the articles contained threats. The judges were warned by one columnist: "Don't you bother me again. Otherwise when I counter-attack in self-defence, you will regret it exceedingly" (the last five words were published in English). The courts were told: "Our tolerance is quite limited. To staunchly defend the truth, we are determined to fight to the last bullet to wipe out the enemy and defend ourselves." As the High Court noted, this read "almost like a declaration of war". On January 13, 1998, the newspaper announced a new tactic in its dispute with the judiciary. The newspaper had wrongly concluded that in an earlier Court of Appeal case, Justice Godfrey had accused a reporter of acting like a paparazzo. The newspaper stated that it would show Justice Godfrey what the term meant. A team of reporters would keep him under surveillance for 24 hours a day. They would "wait for Justice Godfrey to do something that has news value or is interesting,"

and then photograph him. Justice Godfrey was "advised not to take a false step from today onwards," lest he become "a news personality". The newspaper said that it wished Justice Godfrey "peaceful slumbers every night". This operation was put into effect. Justice Godfrey was pursued by a team of reporters, and the newspaper reported what time he left home, when he arrived at court, when he had lunch, where he went in the evening, and what time he arrived home, with photographs. This continued for three days.

On June 23, the High Court (Chief Justice Chan and Judge Keith) found the proprietor company and the chief editor guilty of serious contempts of court. The articles, and the pursuit of Justice Godfrey, were calculated to undermine public confidence in justice in Hong Kong, and were intended to force the judiciary to alter its treatment of the newspaper. The court regarded this as a fundamental challenge to the rule of law. The editor was sent to prison for four months, and the company fined £400,000. (It should declare an interest as an adviser to the Hong Kong authorities.)



DAVID PANNICK QC

Contempt of court covers a wide range of actions which obstruct or prejudice the administration of justice. Contempt law does not exist to protect judicial sensibilities, and judges are now rightly expected to tolerate criticism, whether fair or unfair. As Lord Atkin explained in a 1936 decision, "justice is not a cloistered virtue". But, the High Court correctly noted, it was dealing with an exceptional case. The articles contained crude racial abuse, unfounded accusations of political partiality, and threats. Justice Godfrey was harassed as punishment for the contents of a judgment. Freedom of expression cannot justify such conduct.

In 1984, Lord Diplock suggested that prosecutions for contempt by scandalising the judiciary were "virtually obsolescent in England". The Secretary for Justice of the Oriental Press Group shows that in extraordinary circumstances, this area of contempt law continues to apply. The case demonstrates the principle stated by the European Court of Human Rights in 1995, when it dismissed a complaint about the criminal conviction of two Austrian journalists for defaming a judge. To uphold the rule of law, legal sanctions may occasionally be necessary to protect public confidence in the legal system against "destructive attacks that are essentially unfounded".

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford

Lawyers

ADVISER

Reshuffle huffs and puffs

TONY BLAIR'S first Cabinet reshuffle, due soon, holds out the prospect of change of personnel at both the Lord Chancellor's Department and the Attorney-General's chambers. Geoff Hoon, the doughty Parliamentary Secretary at the LCD, proved to be a steady pair of hands during the storm of adverse media publicity that blew up around his boss, Lord

INNS AND OUTS

Irvine of Lairg. But Mr Hoon is said to be keen to be moved to a more important position. The department could lose out if Mr Hoon were moved now, with legal aid and other reforms coming up in the autumn. One answer might be to upgrade his post: his role in the Commons, as spokesman for the man who is centre stage of Government, certainly justifies it. Keith Vaz, parliamentary private secretary to the Attorney-General, John Morris,

QC, is another hoping for promotion. It looks unlikely. So his number two, the Solicitor-General, Lord Falconer of Thororton, will stay put — and so, probably, will Mr Vaz.

Cost-cutter

A NEW scheme devised by the London branch of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators to cap the costs of arbitration to within 20 per cent of the amount in dispute has been welcomed by the Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls.

Lord Bingham of Cornhill said that if it can succeed in capping costs to 20 per cent, he would have no doubt that it would give arbitration a new lease of life, making the process attractive to those at present worried about costs which may be incurred, particularly if the claim or defence is unsuccessful. Lord Woolf, similarly, has praised the scheme as a "splendid initiative" that will enhance London as the centre of arbitration.

The scheme, to be launched this autumn, has been organised by Richard Freeman, a chartered accountant, Fellow of the Institute and past deputy chairman of the Academy of Experts.

He worked out the costs-capping plan in the wake of the Arbitration Act 1996, which gives arbitrators more flexibility in organising arbitration procedures to limit costs. Overall costs are defined as reasonable legal and experts' costs plus costs and expenses of the arbitrator.

So far, 50 members of the Institute have subscribed by paying a one-off £500 fee to cover training and other expenses,

and after that an annual £200 fee. ● Details from Mr Freeman (0171-629 7986) or via the Net: <http://www.london-l.ciarb.org.uk>.

Woeful

TALES of woe still flood in from people who are suffering delays in the handling of their complaints by the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors since the office itself suffered flooding earlier this year. Jack LeRoy, a quantity surveyor, frustrated by the huge delays in handling his complaint, took his matter to the Legal Services Ombudsman. His letter was acknowledged on January 16 but the file has still not reached the ombudsman's office from the OSS. He says: "I think that we are seriously disadvantaged by the lack of response and the ombudsman's failure to deal with our case after a further five months."

The seminar, at the Law Society (113 Chancery Lane, S45-9 pm), will give practical advice to up-and-coming athletes, as well as to law students and lawyers interested in sport.

Speakers include Mel Stein, a former partner at the law firm Finers; Paul Gascoigne's agent, Brendon Batson, deputy chief executive of the Professional Footballers Association, and Julian Pike, a solicitor with Farrers and a former Harlequins player.

SCRIVENOR



Booth, QC, and Grabiner, QC: international style

Really famous now

A CLUTCH of lawyers is among new entries in the latest *International Who's Who 1998-99*. Best-known is Cherie Booth, QC, but there is also Anthony Grabiner, QC, head One Essex Court. Grabiner went not to Oxbridge but the LSE, where he has just been made chairman of the Court of Governors. Garry Hart, power behind the Lord Chancellor in his role as Lord Irvine of Lairg's special adviser, is included. "Likes sheep farming in North Wales," his entry notes. Most ironic entry is Sir Stephen Tumlin as Principal of St Edmund Hall, Oxford, despite his recent exit from the post.

STUART & FRANCIS



LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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Premier European investment bank seeks ambitious corporate or banking lawyer with 8-9 years' exp to be the No.2 in this respected emerging markets transaction team, also assisting with the management of the Group. The work is very broad, encompassing project finance, capital markets, corporate and other securities work. (Ref: 21711)
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- COMMERCIAL TO £55,000 + BENS**
This thriving company providing major IT services to the UK and Irish financial markets, seeks a corporate, banking or litigation lawyer, with a strong commercial outlook and 3-4 years' experience, to be integrally involved in the company's development. The successful candidate will enjoy a relaxed working environment and excellent career development. (Ref: 22297)
- IN-HOUSE PROP LONDON & MGR**
As a property lawyer, you will know that opportunities for junior solicitors to move into house are the golden ticket. Two unusual vacancies have arisen for 0-2 years qualified property lawyers to join companies in the house and food sectors to deal with a variety of commercial property work, including acquisitions and disposals, and related general commercial issues. On offer are highly competitive salaries and generous benefits packages. (Ref: 23446 & 23222)
- SECURITISATION £70,000++**
Our client, a prestigious American investment bank, is looking for a securities specialist (with some capital markets experience) with 1-4 years' exp to deal with all aspects of the structured finance deals in the front-office transaction management role, with involvement in the structuring of deals as well as execution. (Ref: 22227)
- GEN COUNSEL DUBLIN**
Following a major acquisition, the finance division of this major multi-national is looking for a lawyer with at least 5 years' commercial or financial experience. You will join the senior management team and play a hands-on role as the division continues to expand in Europe, so the ability to speak French would also be an advantage. (Ref: 23622)
- IP COMMERCIAL £35,000++**
Our client is a world-leading manufacturer in the leisure/games industry, based in West London. Joining the existing legal team, they need a 2-4 year commercial lawyer with some IPIT exposure to specialise in international licensing and other issues in relation to merchandising of its own brands. A great opportunity to work in a vibrant environment. (Ref: 22852)
- IT COMM - CAMBRIDGE £35,000++**
This thriving IT company in Cambridge has an opening for a 2 year qualified IT lawyer. As part of a dynamic organisation at the cutting edge of all developments in the IT sector, there are real possibilities to move up and out into the business. The ethos of the company means that bright and energetic individuals are rewarded. (Ref: 23445)

For further information in complete confidence please contact Debbie Offenbach or Lisa Owens on 0171 523 3822 (0181) 234 7475 (evenings/weekends). Alternatively, please write to ZMB Industry, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2A 9EP. Confidentiality 0171 523 3823. E-mail debbie.offenbach@zmbgroup.com. ZMB Industry, a Zank Group Company.

CHAMBERS BANKING & FINANCE

BANKING & FINANCE

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Global Financial Institution Project Finance Lawyer

Our client is a unique and innovative major investment bank well-known for its cross-border expertise. The members of the highly thought of legal department take an active role in 'deals' relying very little on external counsel.

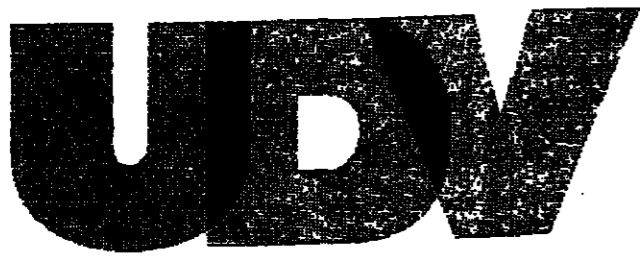
It now seeks a senior lawyer with a minimum of 5 years' experience of either project financing, asset/structured financing or capital markets transactions. Ideally candidates should have emerging markets exposure or be able to demonstrate a genuine interest in Central/Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Consistently challenging deals are virtually guaranteed.

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 We are looking for a Senior Counsel to complement our existing team. The role will include the day-to-day management of the intellectual property legal services to UDV's international brands. The role will also involve the management of the company's trademark portfolio. The successful candidate will have 5-10 years' experience in the management of a portfolio of trademarks and will have a strong understanding of the UK and international trademark law. For further information please contact Lisa Owens at ZMB Industry.

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We aim to have one of the most sophisticated and high-tech intellectual property legal functions in our business and therefore offer a unique opportunity to be part of this success from an early stage in the group's development. We offer very attractive salary packages as well as competitive incentive plans. Candidates from both private practice and in-house with the requisite experience will be considered. It is essential for both types of role that you are a team player, willing to enjoy considerable levels of responsibility and able to integrate in a fast moving global corporate environment.

All applications will be treated in complete confidence. Please write to ZMB Industry our retained recruitment consultants at 37 Sun Street, London, EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171 523 3823. E-mail lisa.owens@zarakgroup.com or telephone on 0171 523 3822. ZMB Industry are dealing with this assignment on an exclusive basis. All direct and third party applications will be forwarded to them.



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EMPLOYMENT LAWYER MANCHESTER

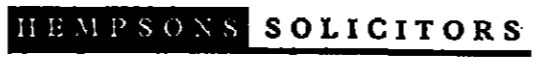
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Please respond to box number 1970 by 17th July 1998

50 من الأصل

Cristel Amiss on the plight of victims of sexual violence who seek asylum

Women deserving refuge

We don't know how many refugees in the UK are women, but some estimates suggest that as many as half are seeking refuge from rape and other forms of sexual violence.

Such a process takes time. Reducing the time that rape survivors have to document what they have suffered and in what circumstances would severely undermine their claim for asylum.

The situation of a woman recently given exceptional leave to remain graphically illustrates the problem. In 1989 Ms G, who fled civil war in northern Uganda, immediately applied for asylum because of her family's political activity.

The report by the Black Women's Rape Action Project, to which I belong, and other new evidence were rejected by the Home Office; her evidence was not "credible".

gushed psychiatrist. Ruling that it was "impossible to do justice to the appalling picture" of the persecution our report described, the judge ordered the Home Office to reconsider her claim; five months later — nine years after her arrival — Ms G won exceptional leave to remain.

Ms G's shocking experiences in both Uganda and Britain are not uncommon. Many women raped by police or the military are very young, survivors of genocide and mothers with young children (some times conceived as a result of rape).

Rape victims need a safe environment, time and sensitive support before they can speak about their ordeal. Yet without privacy and when their future hangs on their every word, asylum-seekers are expected on arrival to detail their torture to officials perhaps reminiscent of the police or military who raped them.

Some asylum-seekers are detained without time limit, adequate legal representation, healthcare or counselling. Recently, after our eleven-hour intervention, a young woman, who had fled rape and the threat of genital mutilation, was granted residence after spending almost a year in detention.

Former detainees reports: "Most of the women inside are black: many are African and Kurdish; many are mothers. They came to Britain seeking asylum and were arrested at the airport and taken straight to detention."



Asylum-seekers: does Britain always make the right response?

and Sri Lanka were least likely. We find that discrimination based on sex, race, nationality or language makes black women among those most vulnerable yet the least likely to gain protection.

Successive governments have refused to recognise rape as persecution and therefore grounds for asylum, or to implement UNHCR guidelines on protecting refugees who are victims of rape and sexual assault.

Since the 1996 Asylum Act, refugees have been denied housing and benefits, adding denial of resources to hostility and disbelief. In contrast, the anti-rape movement has established that survivors of sexual violence need time and resources to begin the healing process.

same support, protection, consideration and resources as other survivors of rape?

Last week the Refugee Women's Legal Group launched guidelines for immigration authorities, which should help to increase awareness of what happens to women. Also, the Minister for Women has recently announced that tackling violence against women is a priority.

Will the Government acknowledge rape as grounds for asylum?

*Percentage of decisions granted refugee status (excluding refusals on safe third country and non-compliance grounds). Statistical analysis: Refugee Council, January 1998.

Now for the summer of teasing changes

Edward Fennell outlines changes happening soon to employment. As usual, lawyers will be busy

Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, has called for a more "family-friendly" culture in the workplace. He pledged the Government to legislation, which will help to end the long-hours culture and promote part-time work and jobshares.

His speech was made at the annual Employment Law and Practice conference organised by the Institute of Personnel and Development, a meeting of lawyers and managers that is timely because they will be seeing a lot of each other during the next 18 months.

Lord Irvine's appearance was something of a curtain-raiser to a shake-up in employment law. Employment lawyers resist suggestions that this is a return to the 1970s. But they do admit that the country is about to plunge over a waterfall of new legislation and regulations encompassing individual rights, collective rights and "family friendly" policies.

One point emerging is the need in future for bosses to be more careful with how they deal with their staff. Fraser Youson, of Baker & McKenzie, says employers must get a grip of developments such as the Working Time Directive. Seminars held by his firm on the topic were proving popular.

"The problem," he says, "is that there is a lot of uncertainty around the directive because there are gaps and grey areas which need to be filled. To be on the safe side, employers need to keep very detailed records of the hours that their staff have worked. It is important that they start to install these systems during the summer, so that they will be ready for the autumn when the directive comes into effect."

Mr Youson reckons that, although the 1970s was the decade of the marketing director, and the 1980s and early 1990s that of the finance director, we are about to see the rise of the human resource director, not least because of the severe financial penalties if that side of a company is not run properly.

According to Stephen Levinson, the head of employment law at Paisner & Co, "because money motivates, there is bound to be an increase over the next couple of years in the number of claims for unfair dismissal".

STAND BY FOR A NEW WAY OF WORKING

THE long-hours culture is supposedly to be ended by the Working Time Directive, which introduces a maximum working week, with exceptions.

● The Parental Leave Directive. By December 1999, it will give working parents the right to a maximum of three months' parental leave after one year's service.

● Part-time Work Directive eliminates discrimination against part-time workers.

● Employment Rights (Dispute Resolution) Act 1998: promotes new voluntary arbitration scheme to settle unfair dismissal claims (by spring 1999).

● The White Paper, Fairness at Work, includes proposals for stronger union rights, reformed maternity provisions, the abolition of the cap on the compensation that industrial tribunals can award in unfair dismissal cases and a reduction from two years to one in the qualifying period for unfair dismissal claims.

about to be lifted. Combine this with contingency fees and the reduced period of employment required to qualify, and you have a potent mixture of elements that could ignite litigation.

According to Alison L. Wetherfield, an employment lawyer at Warner Cranston, employers are starting to get "hot under the col-

lar" about the implications of this. She says: "The advantage of the cap was that it made sense, given the sums involved, to negotiate for settlement outside court."

"That will no longer be the case. If we are talking about a senior executive, perhaps seeking hundreds of thousands of pounds in compensation, then employers will be much keener to fight these cases."

Mark Watson, head of the employment department at Fox Williams, says his firm is already doing a lot of advisory work with clients to help them "get their procedures into shape." One of the most important things is that staff handbooks and disciplinary procedures should be updated in order to take account of the new framework in which people will be employed.

Ms Wetherfield thinks that it will take some time to adjust because, with its origins in European legislation, much of the apparatus now required will seem alien to the British way of doing things.

There will also be a number of teasing problems to which answers may not be immediately obvious. The Parental Leave Directive, for example, has been singled out as potentially rich in practical complications: issues of recognition of trade unions will also probably give rise to great argument. The consequence is that every firm with a serious employment practice is likely to see an expansion in work.

Many are taking on more employment specialists. As Malcolm Pike, of Addleshaw Booth & Co, comments: "Many businesses, which have not traditionally used lawyers for tribunal representation, are likely to start doing so." This was echoed by Mike Emmott, policy adviser on employee relations at the Institute of Personnel & Development, who says there is a serious risk of employers making expensive mistakes. It is not just that there is more legislation but that it is different from what managers are accustomed to. Mr Emmott said: "Because of the European dimension we have to take on new ideas in employment law such as human rights — not a concept we are familiar with in the UK."

The stakes in employment law have been raised. Unemployment may increase — but not among employment lawyers.

Advertisement for Garfield Robbins, a law firm specializing in Corporate Finance, Tax, Asset Finance, and Oil and Gas. It lists various services and contact information for the London and Sydney offices.

Advertisement for WorldCom Legal Adviser. It describes WorldCom as a global telecommunications business and seeks a junior lawyer to join its existing legal team. It lists office locations in London, New York, and other cities.

Advertisement titled "TIME FOR A CHANGE?". It lists various legal services such as Banking/Finance, Corporate, Tax/Schemes/Pensions, US Firm, Commercial Litigation, Property, Know-how, and Trust/Probate Litigation, along with contact information for QD Legal.

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WASHINGTON POST

in London

Competition/Commercial Partner

A premier Washington-based law firm, our client already has a successful City office and now seeks to broaden and enhance its existing UK and US commercial/corporate law capabilities. The firm has a collegial, rather than individualistic culture and was among the first of the US firms to establish its London office as a multinational partnership.

One of the firm's 'crown jewel' practice areas is antitrust law, where the firm is lead counsel to numerous Fortune 500 companies. Many of these clients undertake large and often complex cross-border transactions requiring both US and European, competition and commercial law advice. To service the needs of these clients, the firm now seeks to recruit one or more UK qualified partners from a major City practice with expertise and a track record in commercial work and/or competition law.

You will be used to dealing with sophisticated businesses, producing and managing premium quality work, and - above all - you will be attracted by the prospect of being a key player in the management and planned strategic growth of this firm's London office.

Rarely has such an exceptional opportunity for competition/commercial partners arisen in London. The substantial partnership package on offer will undoubtedly justify your interest.

For a discussion in absolute confidence, please contact Stephen Rodkey or Mick Skilton on 0171 405 8082 (0171 384 3079 or 0171 386 7072 evenings/evenings) or write to them at QD Legal, Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
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INVESTMENT BANKING

The current bout of merger activity has done nothing to stifle demand for high calibre lawyers in our US, European and Japanese investment banking clients

CAPITAL MARKETS **To £90,000 + bonus**
Reflecting the broad nature of the existing debt and equity capital markets role at one of the world's leading investment banks, you will clearly be a corporate/commercial lawyer with c.4 years' ppe who is keen to enjoy the many benefits - financial and otherwise - of life in-house. Ref B38619

INVESTMENT BANKING **To £85,000**
Do you want to be an investment banker? If so, fortune smiles you at the leading international bank. It seeks young lawyers with the right skills for the job and offers an excellent career path. As well as 0-3 years' ppe in banking, finance or similar, you need to be numerate. Ref B50688

PRINCIPAL FINANCE **To £150,000 package**
If you always planned to use your legal training to move into an interesting non-legal business role, now is the time to put the plan into action. This top European institution will turn securities, capital markets and derivatives lawyers into non-legal principal finance specialists. Ref B46873

EQUITY DERIVATIVES **To £150,000 package**
It's never too early to go in-house, especially when the house is one of international finance's leading names. Whether newly qualified or more senior, you will learn every aspect of equity derivatives in return for a fantastic package, helping you also to become a major name yourself. Ref B47872

BANKING/M&A/EMERGING MARKETS **To £100,000**
There is no shortage of security at this top finance house for the lawyer with 4-5 years' ppe who supports the investment banking team and offers mid-level M&A support too. The work includes collateralised lending, perfecting securities and structured finance in emerging markets. Ref B46474

EQUITY CAPITAL MARKETS **To £100,000 + bonus**
US lawyers or UK lawyers with US experience, are as much at a premium in-house as they are in private practice, as proven by the fantastic opening at a top bank for an equity capital markets lawyer with 4-10 years' ppe to play a pivotal role in the business unit's global equity offerings. Ref B42409

ASSET MANAGEMENT **To £120,000**
Are you inoperative? Do you not want to earn lots of money? Are you boring? If your answer is no and you have 3+ years' ppe, with some in asset and investment management, then you have a big future working largely autonomously with the business people at this major bank. Ref B48201

TAX/STRUCTURED FINANCE **To £80,000 + bonus**
This is the big time for capital markets, structured finance and securitisation lawyers with 3-6 years' ppe at one of the world's best-known institutions. You will have an exciting non-legal role executing, marketing and developing structured finance deals. Pay and prospects match the status. Ref B36314

PRIVATE PRACTICE

CORP PARTNER **TO £500,000**
A top flight corporate partner is sought by this small, highly successful and profitable commercial firm at the way forward of innovation in the legal profession. Over half of the firm's turnover is attributable to out-of-work in a variety of industry sectors. You will have a superb track record of client development and the energy and inspiration to make an immediate impact. (Ref. 22911)

COMMERCIAL **TO £55,000**
One of the leading City practices, which seeks to combine proven legal expertise with commercial flair, is looking for a lawyer with 1-4 years' ppe to undertake general commercial work including a range of IP and related EC issues. You will enjoy a relaxed working environment and the impressive diversity of clients which this firm can offer. (Ref. 22802)

BANKING LIT **TO £52,000**
This leading litigation firm is looking for a solicitor to join its banking litigation department, which has been involved in many of the UK's high-profile litigation cases. The successful candidate will have 3-4 years' top quality commercial litigation experience, a natural flair for litigation and dispute resolution, and the ability to work as part of a team. (Ref. 23340)

EC/COMP **ATTRACTIVE**
Exciting opportunities for two lawyers to undertake EC/Competition work for this progressive City firm. The first position is for a lawyer with 1-3 years' ppe and is London based. The second position is for a lawyer with 5-6 years' ppe to work in the firm's Brussels office who should be able to demonstrate the ability to drive forward this area of the firm's business. (Ref. 23022)

NQ - FUNDS/FSA **EXCELLENT**
An excellent opportunity for a newly qualified lawyer, with experience of investment funds management and FSA, to join one of the City's leading practices. The firm places great emphasis on training, providing an excellent foundation on which to build a solid professional career. The changing regulatory environment will create tremendous opportunities for the right candidate. (Ref. 23491)

COMM PROP **COMPETITIVE**
The well-established property department of this medium sized London firm is continuing to experience rapid growth and is now looking to recruit a property solicitor with 2-4 years' ppe. Already experienced in landlord and tenant law, the successful candidate will enjoy a team-orientated environment and excellent financial reward. (Ref. 22046)

VAT/TAX **TO £60,000**
Highly successful medium-sized City practice, with a superb reputation for the quality of its financial work, is looking for a tax lawyer with 1-5 years' ppe and preferably some experience of VAT issues. With an enviable client portfolio and a great emphasis placed upon training and development, this is a tremendous opportunity to further your professional career. (Ref. 22496)

COMM LIT **TO £60,000**
This leading City firm is looking for an assistant with up to 5 years' ppe to provide general commercial litigation support. The successful candidate will undertake a wide range of high quality domestic and international work including contract litigation, insolvency procedures, judicial review, corporate takeovers, professional negligence claims and product liability. (Ref. 23382)

IP **TO £50,000**
Central London firm, a leader in entertainment and media law, seeks an assistant with at least 4 years' ppe, to undertake IP, IT, trademarks and media work, liaising closely with the practice's commercial department. This position will suit a lawyer who has substantial experience of non-contentious work and a desire to focus in the media sector. (Ref. 22201)

CONSTRUCTION **TO £45,000**
This well-respected mid-sized City firm is looking for a construction lawyer with up to 3 years' ppe to undertake a mixture of contentious and non-contentious work, dealing with developers, institutional investors, engineering contractors, as well as local and public authorities. The successful candidate will join a highly effective and closely knit team. (Ref. 22436)

DOES SOMEBODY ELSE ALWAYS GET THE JUICY WORK?

LAWYERS - CORPORATE INSURANCE

At this moment, you may be feeling a bit low down the pecking order. You could be working for a smaller firm where the work is good but not quite as challenging as you would like. You may be in another big practice where the 'hierarchy' leaves you feeling well and truly pecked. Or you could be in-house, finding that there is a lot of work but no juice. Whatever you are doing and wherever you are working, you could be doing a lot more with Clifford Chance.

In the fast-changing world of financial services, we are working with many of the leading players in the market. With your experience, you will concentrate on investment funds advising clients on all manner of issues and regulatory matters. By sharing your own and exchanging ideas, we are leveraging our collective expertise and helping clients to keep up-to-date with the pace of change in this competitive arena. Overall, there is an infectious enthusiasm about what we are doing for our clients.

We want to talk to people with two to four years' ppe who have been trained in the UK. Whatever your background, you will have a genuine enthusiasm for the industry, and a real banking for more high-level commercial exposure. To strike up an informal dialogue, call Tim Herrington, Partner, on 0171 600 1000. Alternatively, you can write with full cv and current salary details to Ellen Dunne, Personnel Manager, Clifford Chance, 200 Aldersgate Street, London EC1A 4JL. Fax: 0171 956 0024. E-mail: ellen.dunne@cliffordchance.com

CLIFFORD CHANCE

GRANADA

GRANADA MEDIA GROUP

GRANADA MEDIA GROUP seeks bright, enthusiastic, hard-working lawyer, 1-2 years PQE with experience in entertainment law and IP to work in commercial area with emphasis on distribution. Send CV and salary requirements to Norma Acland, Granada Media Group, The London Television Centre, Upper Ground, London, SE1 9LT. Closing date: 21st July 1998

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THE TIMES TUESDAY JULY 14 1998

RACING: BEATEN GUINEAS FAVOURITE TACKLES TEN FURLONGS

Xaar attempts to restore honour over longer trip

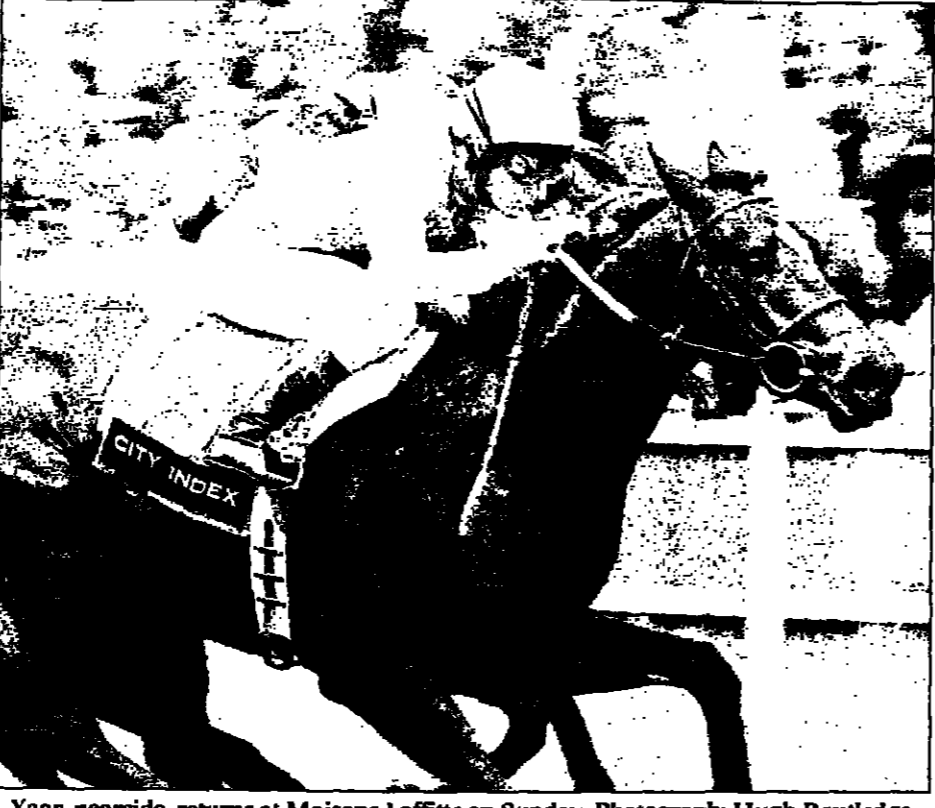
By Chris McGrath

THOUGH not the sort of man to seek any further precedent than his own achievements, André Fabre could hardly ask for more timely encouragement than has been furnished by his footballing compatriots. For he can spend France's blearest Bastille Day consoled by the reflection that Xaar, last year's champion juvenile, has shown little more this season than did the national team in its awkward journey through the World Cup's early stages.

After scrambling home in the Craven Stakes on his reappearance, Xaar laboured into fourth in the 2,000 Guineas. On Sunday, however, the trainer hopes that Xaar can reveal the bravura of his seven-length Dewhurst Stakes success last autumn. The Zafonic colt will try ten furlongs for the first time in the Prix Eugène Adam at Maisons-Laffitte, where possible opponents include Dr Frog, winner of the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot.

But that race is effectively only the semi-final for Xaar, whose goal is at York on August 18, when his owner, Khalid Abdullah, sponsors the Juddmonte International Stakes.

"The horse returned from the Guineas with severe allergy problems," says Pritchard-Gordon. Abdullah's racing manager, said yesterday, "but he's back in strong work and the way he trains, added to the fact that his trainer, after the Dewhurst Stakes, implied that he felt him more likely to stay



Xaar, nearside, returns at Maisons-Laffite on Sunday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

than his pedigree might strictly suggest, has encouraged us to go down this road. The horse has always taken time to hit top gear in his races."

Xaar would not be risked in bad ground, and Pritchard-Gordon added: "If we need to change the plan for any reason, he could always go for the Grand Prix de Vichy or the Prix Daphnis. The important thing is that he has a preliminary before York."

Stamina is never so teasing a question as in the Melbourne Cup, in which the majority of locally-trained runners tend not to stay the two-mile trip. That is the frank admission of Les Benton, general manager of the Victoria Racing Club and the race's indefatigable evangelist in the northern hemisphere.

Benton is confident that his annual mission to promote the world's fifth most valuable

race will yield a record overseas challenge on November 3. Encouraged by the fact that Harbour Dues was unlucky not to finish closer than fourth last year, Benton's pitch has been: "It's closer than you think."

Lady Herries, trainer of Harbour Dues, may send Taufan's Melody this time, while Jeff Smith plans to return not only with Grey Shot, who ran so well two years ago, but also Persian Punch. The owner said: "His best trip is probably a strongly-run two miles, and who better to have in front than Grey Shot, who holds the track record for the trip at Newmarket? They can't ignore him. If they let him go, he would probably carry on and win."

Grey Shot, rested after his hurdling campaign, returns in the Goodwood Cup on July 30, but Persian Punch is having a break of his own after disappointing in the Ascot Gold Cup. "It's still a bit of a puzzle," Smith said. "I wouldn't say he skulked, but perhaps the change of tactics disappointed him."

Richard Hannon provides six of the 24 five-day declarations for the £120,000 Weatherbys Super Sprint at Newbury on Saturday.

RACING AHEAD
Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market

VODAFONE STEWARDS' CUP
Goodwood, August 1

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

Stable	Price	Value	Notes
Nuclear Debate	1/4	5/1	Good value
Harmonic Way	1/4	3/1	Good value
Masha-H	1/4	1/4	Good value
Gaelic Storm	1/4	1/4	Good value
Reaffirm	1/4	1/4	Good value
Triple Hawk	1/4	1/4	Good value
Southeast Flyer	1/4	1/4	Good value
Jayme	1/4	1/4	Good value
Brave Edge	1/4	1/4	Good value
Dance of the Wind	1/4	1/4	Good value
Faraway Lass	1/4	1/4	Good value

BETTING on the Vodafone Stewards' Cup, one of the highlights of Goodwood, sprung into life on Sunday after an eye-catching effort by Surevor, who finished an unlikely third to Gyro Edge at Newbury. The John Dunlop-trained three-year-old gelding surely have won with a clear run, and is open to improvement, but the bookmakers are giving little away at a best price of 8-2.

Lynde Ramsden's Nuclear Debate put his best effort when beating the in-form Gay Breeze in the Gosford Park Cup at Newcastle last time, but he has been raised 5/1 for that effort and will have to progress further.

Masha-H proved himself able to cope with the undulations at Goodwood when winning in good style from Resise. The Force three-year-old gelding last week, he stepped as though that seven-furlong triumph at Follongstone last week.

Selhurst Succor, who won the Wokingham at Royal Ascot for the second successive year, seems better than ever at the age of seven. However, on his two starts at Goodwood in the last two years he has finished no nearer than seventeenth, and he makes no appeal.

One who does is Harmonic Way. Lightly raced as a juvenile, he has gone from strength to strength this season, most recently finishing an excellent third to Ho Long in the Sunbury Cup at Kempton last week. He stepped as though that seven-furlong contest was stretching his stamina, and should appreciate the drop back in trip at Goodwood. At 15-1 with Hills and Ladbrokes, HARMONIC WAY represents excellent each-way value.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Ayr
Going: good (good to soft in places)
2.15 (1m 10f) 1. BACK ROW (N Pollar, 14-1) 2. Westminister (D Baggis, 11-4) 3. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 4. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 5. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 6. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 7. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 8. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 9. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 10. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 11. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 12. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 13. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 14. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 15. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 16. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 17. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 18. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 19. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 20. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 21. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 22. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 23. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 24. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 25. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 26. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 27. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 28. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 29. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 30. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 31. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 32. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 33. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 34. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 35. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 36. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 37. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 38. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 39. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 40. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 41. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 42. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 43. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 44. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 45. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 46. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 47. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 48. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 49. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 50. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 51. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 52. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 53. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 54. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 55. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 56. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 57. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 58. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 59. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 60. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 61. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 62. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 63. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 64. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 65. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 66. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 67. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 68. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 69. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 70. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 71. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 72. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 73. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 74. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 75. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 76. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 77. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 78. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 79. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 80. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 81. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 82. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 83. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 84. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 85. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 86. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 87. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 88. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 89. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 90. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 91. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 92. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 93. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 94. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 95. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 96. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 97. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 98. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 99. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4) 100. All Saints (D Baggis, 11-4)

BEVERLEY

THUNDERER
2.15 Miss Salza Dancer 3.45 Golden Fortune
2.45 Swiftway 4.15 Casimir
3.15 Mr Miyagi 4.45 MUXARRAB (nap)
Newmarket Correspondent: 3.45 Golden Fortune, 4.15 CASIMIR (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES)
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.15 COLLECTING RING APPRENTICES HANDICAP
(3-Y-O; £2,653; 1m 10yds) (15 runners)

No.	Name	Trainer	Age & Sex	Weight	Starting Price	Notes
101	(6) 4000-20 KINGS OF DANCE 10 (5) S J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	41	
102	(14) 20-24 MISS SALZA DANCER 16 (P) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	30	
103	(12) 054 ADLERSON DANCER 22 (O) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	20	
104	(11) 01-00 BIV OF DELIGHT 10 (G) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	15	
105	(1) 0-00-00 SANDORON TARTAN 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	10	
106	(13) 07-00-00 RINGLEADER 12 (D,J) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	7	
107	(17) 05-00-00 VERA AND ALICE 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	6	
108	(9) 00-00-00 SARGE BUTT 13 (O) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	5	
109	(4) 00-00-00 ON THE MAT 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	4	
110	(10) 12-00-00 SMOOTH FRONTSIDE 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	3	
111	(16) 14-00-00 SMIS MC MIKE 11 (P) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	2	
112	(12) 600-00-00 BUZZ THE AGENT 17 (B) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	1	
113	(8) 00-00-00 BRIDGE 16 (P) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	1	
114	(15) 2400-04 CANDY TWIST 11 (U) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	1	
115	(18) 2400-04 CANDY TWIST 11 (U) J Doughty 9-7	C Carter	5	10	1	

LONG HURDLE: Candy Twist 7-8
LONG HURDLE: Candy Twist 7-8

FORM FOCUS

King Of Dance 10f best of 7 to health in 3yo handicap at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Miss Salza Dancer 20f (13 of 13) at Newmarket, Log in 3yo handicap at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Ashleigh Baker 17f (11 of 11) to 3yo maiden stakes at Newmarket (1m 10yds) good, Bay Of Delight 10f (11 of 11) to 3yo maiden stakes at Salisbury (1m 10yds) good, Sandoron Tartan 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Ripon (1m 10yds) good, Ringleader 12f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Vera and Alice 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Sarge Butt 13f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, On the Mat 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Smooth Frontside 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Smis Mc Mike 11f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Buzz the Agent 17f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Bridge 16f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Candy Twist 11f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Candy Twist 11f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good.

2.45 JOHN & ANGELA BARLEY 30TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP
(£3,036; 2m 35yds) (15 runners)

No.	Name	Trainer	Age & Sex	Weight	Starting Price	Notes
301	(12) 06-00-00 ASTORIA 15 (G,D,F) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	72	
302	(14) 2-0-0-0 APOSTrophe 14 (G,D,F) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	62	
303	(10) 05-00-00 MAFULLIN 12 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	52	
304	(16) 00-00-00 SWEETWAY 10 (A) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	42	
305	(8) 00-00-00 PARION 10 (G) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	32	
306	(18) 05-00-00 SORCERER 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	22	
307	(11) 00-00-00 ZAMBERGER 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	12	
308	(17) 00-00-00 KNOCK 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
309	(13) 00-00-00 HUNTING GROUND 30 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
310	(15) 00-00-00 SWEET SEVEN 22 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
311	(19) 00-00-00 MARY PAT 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
312	(9) 00-00-00 SWIFTWAY 10 (A) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
313	(14) 00-00-00 PARION 10 (G) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
314	(18) 00-00-00 SORCERER 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
315	(16) 00-00-00 ZAMBERGER 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
316	(17) 00-00-00 KNOCK 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
317	(13) 00-00-00 HUNTING GROUND 30 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
318	(15) 00-00-00 SWEET SEVEN 22 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
319	(19) 00-00-00 MARY PAT 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	
320	(9) 00-00-00 SWIFTWAY 10 (A) J Doughty 9-7	A Culshaw	7	12	10	

BETTING: 4-1 Hazza 1/4, 9-2 Woodgate, 5-1 Masha-H, 1-1 Swiftway, 10-1 Kinza, 12-1 Parion, 14-1 Scorchard, 16-1 Sam Sam, 20-1 Masha-H.

FORM FOCUS

Manzanillo 4f 2nd of 8 to 4yo maiden stakes at Newmarket (1m 10yds) good, Ashleigh Baker 17f (11 of 11) to 3yo maiden stakes at Salisbury (1m 10yds) good, Hazza 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Woodgate 9f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Masha-H 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Kinza 12f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Parion 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Scorchard 16f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Sam Sam 20f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Masha-H 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good.

3.15 CATTLE LINES CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O; £3,036; 7f 10yds) (8 runners)

No.	Name	Trainer	Age & Sex	Weight	Starting Price	Notes
301	(4) 00-00-00 DORRINGTON 10 (G,D,F) J Doughty 9-7	D Holland	17	17	65	
302	(8) 00-00-00 DETROIT CITY 15 (G,D,F) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	66	66	55	
303	(6) 00-00-00 DURHAM ABER 15 (G,D,F) J Doughty 9-7	D Holland	17	17	45	
304	(7) 00-00-00 TOP FLOOR 20 (P) J Doughty 9-7	J Munn	63	63	35	
305	(5) 00-00-00 MR MARY 20 (P) J Doughty 9-7	A Mackay	64	64	25	
306	(3) 00-00-00 NOVELTY 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	D Holland	17	17	15	
307	(2) 00-00-00 SUEY WELLS 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	D Holland	17	17	10	
308	(1) 00-00-00 LADY MAC 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	D Holland	17	17	10	
309	(1) 00-00-00 LADY MAC 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	D Holland	17	17	10	
310	(1) 00-00-00 LADY MAC 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	D Holland	17	17	10	

BETTING: 6-4 Duffin Flyer, 11-4 Debut One, 4-1 Doughty, 10-1 Top Floor, 14-1 M. Miyagi, 20-1 Novelty, 20-1 Novelty, 20-1 Novelty.

FORM FOCUS

Dorington 6f 8th of 11 to High Premium in claiming stakes at Colton (1m 10yds) good, Detroit City best Italian Rose 14f (11 of 11) to 2yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Durham Aber 15f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Top Floor 20f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Mr Mary 20f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Novelty 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Suey Wells 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good, Lady Mac 10f (10 of 10) to 3yo maiden stakes at Beverley (1m 10yds) good.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Golden Fortune
(3.45 Beverley)
Golden Fortune was a good second on her seasonal re-appearance at Newmarket despite being 8lb out of the handicap. She runs off her proper mark today and should take all the beating.
NB: Superfilly
(4.15 Beverley)

2.00 EBF MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O; £3,338; 5f 12yds) (8 runners)

No.	Name	Trainer	Age & Sex	Weight	Starting Price	Notes
101	(6) 05-00-00 ASLEY 27 (B) J Doughty 9-7	T Spinks	32	32	42	
102	(12) 05-00-00 MANZONI 20 (P) J Doughty 9-7	J Doughty	30	30	32	
103	(10) 05-00-00 PRINCESS 22 (C) J Doughty 9-7	J Doughty	30	30	22	
104	(14) 05-00-00 WHISTLING DOG 10 (A) J Doughty 9-7	D Harrison	31	31	12	
105	(8) 05-00-00 ESTINE 10 (G) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	
106	(16) 05-00-00 TROPICAL FOREST 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	
107	(18) 05-00-00 MILADY LILIE 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	
108	(4) 05-00-00 LILIAN 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	

2.30 RACECOURSE ANTIQUES FAIR THIS WEEK-END CLAIMING STAKES
(2-Y-O; £2,272; 6f 20yds) (8 runners)

No.	Name	Trainer	Age & Sex	Weight	Starting Price	Notes
101	(6) 05-00-00 ASLEY 27 (B) J Doughty 9-7	T Spinks	32	32	42	
102	(12) 05-00-00 MANZONI 20 (P) J Doughty 9-7	J Doughty	30	30	32	
103	(10) 05-00-00 PRINCESS 22 (C) J Doughty 9-7	J Doughty	30	30	22	
104	(14) 05-00-00 WHISTLING DOG 10 (A) J Doughty 9-7	D Harrison	31	31	12	
105	(8) 05-00-00 ESTINE 10 (G) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	
106	(16) 05-00-00 TROPICAL FOREST 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	
107	(18) 05-00-00 MILADY LILIE 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	
108	(4) 05-00-00 LILIAN 10 (P) J Doughty 9-7	M Fenton	30	30	10	

3.00 BRIGHTON ROCK MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O; £2,762; 6f 20yds) (8 runners)

No.	Name	Trainer	Age & Sex	Weight	Starting Price	Notes
101	(6) 05-00-00 ASLEY 27 (B) J Doughty 9-7	T Spinks	32	32	42	

The story so far

Didn't I see you sporting a Brazil replica shirt the other day? You might have done.
 What happened to that, then?
 I ripped it off in disgust when France scored their second goal and threw it at the television.
 Not pleased, then?
 Not exactly. You're looking at the man who could have transferred Zinedine Zidane into his fantasy league team...
 ... but transferred in Bebeto instead?
 Nearly as bad: it was Ronaldo that I decided on, for all the good it did me. I should have paid more attention to the injury rumours.
 But when did you do the deal? Before he scored the goal against Holland in the semi-final?
 Yes, but it wasn't enough. In a perfect world, I would have brought in Lilian Thuram, who scored twice in the semi-final. Instead, I went for Laurent Blanc. I thought I remembered him scoring in Euro 96, as well as helping to keep any number of clean sheets.
 But he did score, against Paraguay.
 Yes, he did, but that was before I got him into my team. I'm afraid. Then he was sent off, missing the final...
 ... when France didn't concede any goals, although they did in the semi...
 ... when he played: exactly. From that point of view, it couldn't have been any worse. It meant I didn't even get close to the prize for the best score over the final phase.
 But it could have been much worse. Imagine if you'd invested in Stéphane Guivarc'h, as Kenny Dalglish has...
 Good point. I wouldn't be looking forward to the new season too much if I was a Newcastle United fan, especially if I was the person who had to do the lettering on the back of their replica shirts. Or I might have got Jaap Stam, like Alex Ferguson.
 I think you'll find that's Stam. And it's one thing marking Suiker, Mijatovic and Hernandez and quite another facing up to Ian Marshall, Kevin Campbell and Carl Leaburn. But you did have some successes, didn't you? I remember last time we spoke you'd acquired some points courtesy of Dan Petrescu, which was a good spot.
 Although I wish it hadn't been. But yes, you're right: it wasn't all bad. I remembered how well Aljosa Asanovic played for Derby County a season or two ago, and I made him one of my signings for the later stages. He got an assist for Davor Suker's goal against France in the semi-final.
 Well, that sounds encouraging, and you've obviously had a few near-misses with your other signings. It's a thin line between success and failure, as some wise old sage of football once said.
 That would be Bill Shankly, or Bob Paisley or someone. I suppose, would it?
 Actually, I think it was Des Lynam. Your overall performance was very promising for next time, anyway.
 What, next World Cup? That's four years away.
 Three years and 11 months, I think you'll find. And counting. Meanwhile, there's next season to think about. I'll have a few weeks off and then get into some pre-season training. Reality is way ahead of you. Spurs have been training for a week or two already.
 I'd better get on with it, then.
 And what exactly does pre-season training for fantasy football consist of, exactly?
 I don't want to give away too many secrets.
 After your results, I don't think too many of your rivals will be too anxious to copy your techniques; and anyway, your secrets are safe with me.
 Well, I've been giving the matter a great deal of thought and I've spoken to other people higher up the table than me, and I've come to the conclusion that the secret of success is research.
 No road running, or working out? None of that "healthy mind in a healthy body" stuff?
 No fear. Knowledge and background are the important things. Study form: find out the gossip; dig out the secrets of who's had a training ground bust-up. If I'd known about the Brazil team's problems before the final, it might all have been different.
 And how, exactly, do you intend to come by this information?
 I'm planning to read a lot of football magazines and watch a load of football videos. Then go to the pub every night and talk about football with people.
 Just lead your normal life, in other words.
 Exactly.

East London rocks to Zidane's virtuoso Paris performance

The winners of *The Times* World Cup Fantasy League reveal the secrets of their success to Nick Szczepanik

When the ball sped off the forehead of Zinedine Zidane into the Brazil net in the World Cup final on Sunday, a nation rejoiced. When the feat was duplicated, just before half-time, a nation went wild. And when the final whistle blew, there was also delight in East London, where Zidane's brace had ensured that Ilex-Q, the team entered by Kassahun Mammo, had won the £25,000 first prize in *The Times* World Cup Fantasy League.



Lilian Thuram featured in all the top three teams

"I was hoping for that," Mr Mammo, a care assistant in a dementia unit, said. "He [Zidane] was my wild card. I had an idea of how the next two people behind me were doing. In fact, I was hoping Brazil would score because other people had two French defenders in their teams."
 Mr Mammo's selection finished the competition with a total of 136 points, the same as that of Total Insanity, picked by Andrew Strickland, 15, of Tonbridge, Kent, but took the title thanks to the superior number of goals scored by his team members—22 as against 20.
 Mr Strickland receives the second prize of £10,000. The third prize of £5,000 goes to Robzam Tigers 1, selected by Ahmad Abdul-Ghani.

The result was far closer than the final itself had been. "I thought it might be a tie," Mr Mammo said. "I'd estimated the other person's points, but I was worried that somebody lower down might have Emmanuel Petit as well as Zidane."
 Fortunately for Mr Mammo, no one who did was close enough in the rankings; a case of beginner's luck, perhaps. "It's my first time sending in a fantasy league team," he said. "I've often thought about Zidane apart, France's success was also significant in that Lilian Thuram, who scored both his



Strickland, from Tonbridge, above, was pipped to the title by Mammo because of the superior number of goals—22 to 20—scored by their respective team members. Photograph: Chris Eades

country's goals in the 2-1 semi-final victory over Croatia, featured in all three top teams. Most of the top entries also included Ronaldo, so the fact that his impact on the final was negligible had no effect on the relative standings of the entrants.
 Thuram, in fact, one of the winning team's original picks, was the top-scoring player in the Ilex-Q selection, with 23 points, and in the competition as a whole. Thuram's part in the iron-clad France defence, which conceded only two goals in the entire competition, was more significant than his late and unlikely bid for the Golden Boot.
 Zidane, in contrast, was one of four players that Mr Mammo transferred in when entrants were permitted to include more than one player from a single country; he replaced Fernando Hierro, of Spain, the joint-highest points-scorer of the first phase.
 The original team, in fact, included a number of players who made a significant impact on the group stage, not least with decisive goals: Oliver Bierhoff, of Germany, Simsa Mijatovic, of Yugoslavia, and—who could forget—Dan Petrescu, of Romania. Added to those sound early selections was the inspiration of bringing in Rivaldo just before his two goals against Denmark.

Or was it inspiration? Good judgment, perhaps. "He's a bit selfish and always goes for goal," Mr Mammo said.
 Mr Strickland, who is on work experience with Tonbridge and Malling District Council, described his success as "just a bit of luck"; but, when pressed, he said: "I did it by a process of elimination. I picked defenders who were in good defensive sides; not necessarily good players, but people who were sure of playing in all the games. And I picked attacking midfield players who scored goals." Mr Abdul-Ghani fell marginally short of the

£2,000 prize for the World Cup Fantasy League's fifth and final phase is, like the three main prize-winners, southern-based.
 Terry Bullen, of London, benefited from that winning formula of Thuram and Zidane, but although he also had Rivaldo in his team, the Brazilian did not score in the fifth phase. Two other players in his selection, Teleubbies, did, however: Ronaldo, who put Brazil ahead against Holland in one semi-final, and the winner of the Golden Boot, Davor Suker, of Croatia, who did likewise against France in the other. Suker, of course, went one better by scoring in the third-place match.
 Three players, Zidane, Suker and Thuram, contributed 21 of the 27 points that Mr Bullen scored during the semi-finals and final, enabling him to finish two points clear of two joint second-placed entrants.
 It was fortunate that the negative score posted by Jaap Stam, of Holland, and, now that he has completed an injury-free World Cup, also of Manchester United, did not prove costly for the Teleubbies.

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THE TIMES

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Top 40 positions in our Fantasy League

The top 40 positions on our final leaderboard for World Cup 98 Fantasy League appear right.

To find out how you did in the competition use our checkline or faxback services below. These services will be available to readers until midnight on Friday July 24.

Details of our new Fantasy League game for the 1998/99 premiership season, with bigger and better prizes, will be published in *The Times* in due course.



TOP 40 IN THE FANTASY LEAGUE

1	Ibez-Q	Kassahun Mammo	136
2	Total Insanity	A Strickland	136
3	Robzam Tigers 1	Ahmad Abdul-Ghani	130
4	Miners Direct A	M Shipley	129
5	Moe Giltz 35	J Doody	127
5	Runs	M Larsen	127
7	Jazzman	J Hosking	126
7	Bluethings Weds	A Dobson	126
7	Gooolalala	F Parsons	126
10	The Charlie Begg	E Quigley	125
10	Azzurri 38	G Fetta	125
12	Fox	I Lane	124
12	Mind The Threat	M Shipley	124
12	Dream Team AFC	R O'Connell	124
15	Sexual Ealing	T Bullen	123
15	Graham's Reserves	G Salter	123
15	Beaverskins	D Hayes	123
18	Fat And Round	J Robertson	122
18	International PI	J Heaks	122
18	Ding FC	T Simpson	122
18	No Name	G Fetta	122
18	Woodhill Green	R Camp	122
23	Sniper 01	M Jankovich	121
23	Bowen's Cooks 11	R Cook	121
23	The Clotmesters	M Bedford	121
23	Heldi's Hopefuls	E Hardie	121
23	Morris Direct M	M Shipley	121
23	Give Owen A Go	J Williams	121
23	Minor Threat UU	M Shipley	121
23	Wood Green MXV	T Curtis	121
31	Moe Giltz 33	J Doody	120
31	H's Not Coming H	J Bates	120
31	Dan's The Man	B Davies	120
34	Hiero We Go 2	C Salt	119
34	Button's Beas	Ms E Chille	119
34	Cathal's Champs	T Ryan	119
34	76-NH	C Sticker	119
34	Duncan Hearts 133	A Duncan	119
34	Nightmare	Carlos Del Carpio	119
34	Dream Team 4	D Patel	119



THE TIMES

WRIGHT GOES TO UPTON PARK.

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UP-TO-DATE PLAYER SCORES WITH LATEST ROUND AND TOTAL

GOALKEEPERS				DEFENDERS				MIDFIELDERS				STRIKERS							
Player	Country	Rd	Tot	Player	Country	Rd	Tot	Player	Country	Rd	Tot	Player	Country	Rd	Tot				
101	Carlos Roa	Argentina	0	7	201	Nestor Sensini	Argentina	0	0	401	Diego Simeone	Argentina	0	4	601	Gabriel Batistuta	Argentina	0	15
102	Pablo Cavalero	Argentina	0	0	202	José Chamot	Argentina	0	1	402	Ariel Ortega	Argentina	0	10	602	Abel Balbo	Argentina	0	0
103	Nelson Tapia	Brazil	0	-1	203	Roberto Ayala	Argentina	0	7	403	Matias Almeyda	Argentina	0	0	603	Claudio Lopez	Argentina	0	5
104	Franz Wohlfahrt	Austria	0	0	204	Javier Zanetti	Argentina	0	8	404	Juan Sebastian Veron	Argentina	0	6	604	Hernan Crespo	Argentina	0	0
105	Filip de Wilde	Belgium	0	2	205	Pablo Paz	Argentina	0	3	405	Marcelo Gallardo	Argentina	0	0	605	Leonel Capanza	Belgium	0	0
106	Taffarel	Brazil	-2	-1	206	Antonio Pflorfer	Austria	0	1	406	Andreas Herzog	Austria	0	3	606	Luc Nilis	Belgium	0	3
107	Carlos Gormano	Brazil	0	0	207	Peter Schotter	Austria	0	-1	407	Marcelo Vega	Chile	0	0	607	Lokeshji Mpanza	Belgium	0	0
108	Boris Mikhalov	Bulgaria	0	0	208	Wolfgang Feiersinger	Austria	0	-1	408	Clarence Acuna	Chile	0	2	608	Reneo	Brazil	0	13
109	Zdravko Zdravkov	Bulgaria	0	-2	209	Marthin Hiden	Austria	0	-1	409	Carlos Valderrama	Colombia	0	2	609	Robinho	Brazil	0	18
110	Jacques Song'o	Cameroon	0	-2	210	Wolfgang Feiersinger	Austria	0	-1	410	Freddy Rincón	Colombia	0	0	610	Eduardo	Brazil	0	0
111	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	-4	211	Eric van Meer	Belgium	0	0	411	Mauricio Somoza	Colombia	0	0	611	Hristo Stokinov	Bulgaria	0	0
112	Oscar Cordoba	Colombia	0	0	212	Vital Borkelmans	Belgium	0	2	412	Aljosa Asanovic	Croatia	0	8	612	Enzo Scifo	Chile	0	0
113	Ferdinand Wondrasch	Colombia	0	2	213	Eric Defandre	Brazil	-2	0	413	Zvonimir Boban	Croatia	2	4	613	Edson	Denmark	0	7
114	Frank Mondragón	Croatia	0	2	214	Roberto Carlos	Brazil	-2	-1	414	Robert Prosinecki	Croatia	3	6	614	Michael Schjoberg	Denmark	0	0
115	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	215	Ed de Gooijer	Holland	-1	4	415	Marko Stancic	Germany	0	3	615	Alan Nielsen	Denmark	0	3
116	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	216	Thomas Mytve	Norway	0	6	416	Krasimir Djakov	Bulgaria	0	0	616	Sylvio Maru	Germany	0	0
117	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	217	Ze Roberto	Brazil	-2	-1	417	Stefan Mrazek	Croatia	0	0	617	Michael Laudrup	Denmark	0	7
118	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	218	Junior Baiano	Brazil	0	0	418	Stefan Mrazek	Croatia	0	0	618	Michael Schjoberg	Denmark	0	0
119	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	219	Andre Cruz	Brazil	0	0	419	Aljosa Asanovic	Croatia	0	8	619	Alan Nielsen	Denmark	0	3
120	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	220	Trifon Ivanov	Bulgaria	0	-2	420	Zvonimir Boban	Croatia	2	4	620	Per Frandsen	Denmark	0	0
121	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	221	Radoslin Kishishev	Bulgaria	0	-5	421	Robert Prosinecki	Croatia	3	6	621	Paul Ince	England	0	2
122	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	222	Gocho Kishishev	Bulgaria	0	-3	422	David Batty	England	0	0	622	Steve McManis	England	0	0
123	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	223	Ivanko Petrov	Bulgaria	0	-2	423	Paul Merson	England	0	0	623	Darren Anderton	England	0	3
124	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	224	Rigobert Song	Cameroon	0	-2	424	Robert Lee	England	0	0	624	Robert Lee	England	0	0
125	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	225	Javier Marzaga	Chile	0	-3	425	Steve McManis	England	0	0	625	Darren Anderton	England	0	3
126	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	226	Javier Marzaga	Chile	0	-3	426	Paul Merson	England	0	0	626	Robert Lee	England	0	0
127	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	227	Rosario Fuentes	Chile	0	-1	427	Darren Anderton	England	0	3	627	Robert Lee	England	0	0
128	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	228	Cristian Castaneda	Chile	0	-2	428	Paul Merson	England	0	0	628	Robert Lee	England	0	0
129	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	229	Pedro Reyes	Colombia	0	2	429	Darren Anderton	England	0	3	629	Robert Lee	England	0	0
130	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	230	Wimber Cabrera	Colombia	0	2	430	Robert Lee	England	0	0	630	Robert Lee	England	0	0
131	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	231	Jorge Bernandez	Colombia	0	0	431	Robert Lee	England	0	0	631	Robert Lee	England	0	0
132	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	232	Ivan Cordoba	Colombia	0	0	432	Robert Lee	England	0	0	632	Robert Lee	England	0	0
133	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	233	Wilson Perez	Croatia	2	15	433	Robert Lee	England	0	0	633	Robert Lee	England	0	0
134	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	234	Robert Jarni	Croatia	0	8	434	Robert Lee	England	0	0	634	Robert Lee	England	0	0
135	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	235	Slaven Bilic	Croatia	0	10	435	Robert Lee	England	0	0	635	Robert Lee	England	0	0
136	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	236	Igor Stimac	Croatia	0	8	436	Robert Lee	England	0	0	636	Robert Lee	England	0	0
137	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	237	Dario Simic	Croatia	0	0	437	Robert Lee	England	0	0	637	Robert Lee	England	0	0
138	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	238	Goran Juric	Denmark	0	3	438	Robert Lee	England	0	0	638	Robert Lee	England	0	0
139	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	239	Marc Ripper	Denmark	0	3	439	Robert Lee	England	0	0	639	Robert Lee	England	0	0
140	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	240	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	440	Robert Lee	England	0	0	640	Robert Lee	England	0	0
141	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	241	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	441	Robert Lee	England	0	0	641	Robert Lee	England	0	0
142	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	242	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	442	Robert Lee	England	0	0	642	Robert Lee	England	0	0
143	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	243	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	443	Robert Lee	England	0	0	643	Robert Lee	England	0	0
144	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	244	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	444	Robert Lee	England	0	0	644	Robert Lee	England	0	0
145	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	245	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	445	Robert Lee	England	0	0	645	Robert Lee	England	0	0
146	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	246	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	446	Robert Lee	England	0	0	646	Robert Lee	England	0	0
147	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	247	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	447	Robert Lee	England	0	0	647	Robert Lee	England	0	0
148	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	248	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	448	Robert Lee	England	0	0	648	Robert Lee	England	0	0
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155	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	255	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	455	Robert Lee	England	0	0	655	Robert Lee	England	0	0
156	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	256	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	456	Robert Lee	England	0	0	656	Robert Lee	England	0	0
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161	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	261	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	461	Robert Lee	England	0	0	661	Robert Lee	England	0	0
162	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	262	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	462	Robert Lee	England	0	0	662	Robert Lee	England	0	0
163	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	263	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	463	Robert Lee	England	0	0	663	Robert Lee	England	0	0
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165	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0	265	Marcelo Ramirez	Chile	0	0										

GOLF

Players unsettled as practice rounds blown off course

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE hands of the clock stood at ten to four. At that time yesterday afternoon Royal Birkdale's white-painted clubhouse gleamed in the sunshine. The weather had been foul a few hours earlier, with spattering rain showers, but now the grass seemed more vivid than ever and the sun was catching the railings that lined the 18th.

By tea-time it was gusting at 20 to 30 knots, four to five on the Beaufort Scale according to the barometric equipment just inside the foyer of the clubhouse. The wind was roaring in from the South-East and borne on it, if one listened out for them, were the squeals of players unused to their squarely struck strokes suddenly being wrenched off course and deposited in thick rough or bunkers.

TODAY IN THE TIMES



16-page Open guide

"I'd say I went round in 74 or so," Ernie Els said. "I was out in three over, back in one over. Mark McNulty and I played Stuart Appleby and Robert Allenby and we won 2&1. The course is in great condition. The rough is very high and very tough. We can't complain about the course but we can about the weather."

Tom Lehman had played nine holes the day before with a driver, five-iron and putter and by the 8th he called it a day when he had lost six balls. At least it wasn't in competition, unlike for Young Woo Nam, of South Korea, yesterday who lost so many balls in attempting to qualify for the Open at West Lancashire that when he lost another on the 18th he had to walk in. He was 25 over par at the time.

Janzen, who had lost five balls on Sunday, found that the two hardest holes in the strong wind yesterday were the 6th, perhaps the most unyielding hole on the course, and the 16th. Els hit a drive and a three-wood on the dogleg 6th as did Janzen, who was still short of the putting surface. Els noted that Appleby's three-iron second shot on the 16th did not reach the green. "He needed a two, I guess," Els said.

Janzen has grown in confidence since he first appeared on these shores having won the US Open in 1993. He explained that there were three reasons why it was difficult to put in such a strong wind. "Staying steady over the ball is one," Janzen said. "To keep your stroke steady is another and making sure that the putt once you've hit it stays on target with the wind blowing across the green is the third. I think the wind blew as hard as this at St Andrews in 1995."

Janzen's memory was playing tricks, however. The wind year that John Daly won the Open was not as strong as it was in this part of Lancashire yesterday, when it was very difficult but not unplayable and called for a little more mental fortitude. As Lehman put it: "The very best players never complain about the weather. They realise you need to play in it, so you prepare yourself and go out and do it." Quite so.



Gary Nicklaus chases a place at Royal Birkdale in a play-off at Hillside yesterday

Nicklaus content to leave centre stage to new stars

By PATRICIA DAVIES

JACK NICKLAUS usually jets into Britain at this time of year to play in the Open Championship, but yesterday he was at Carden Park, Cheshire, to play in an exhibition game before flying to Florida, leaving others to do battle at Royal Birkdale for the old claret jug, a trophy that he has won three times but accepts he will not win again.

extant that he knows he is not usually giving of his best. He will be 60 in 18 months and confessed: "Golf is not that important. I'm fairly in touch with what's realistic."

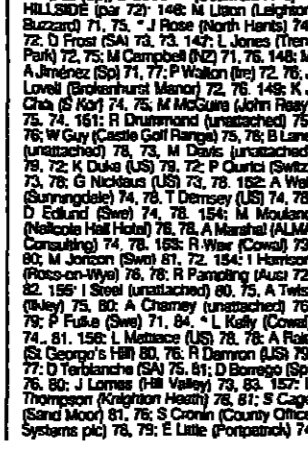
Nicklaus can hit a one-iron 250 or 260 yards, setting the ball off on a low, running trajectory, but he no longer has the strength to hit the high, towering, all-carrying one-irons that amazed seasoned British observers such as Henry Longhurst when the tyro from Ohio arrived at Muirfield, where the United States Walker Cup team in 1959. The senior citizen knows that young men such as Tiger

Woods — "He's smart enough and disciplined enough to play any golf course" — and Lee Westwood — "He probably is your heir apparent now" — are the new era and he is now clocking up courses (150-plus) in his name at the last count instead of championships.

Nicklaus flew in from Detroit, where he finished a distant sixth behind Gil Morgan in the Ford Senior Players' championship on Sunday, to initiate the official opening of the Nicklaus Course at Carden, a 750-acre estate in Cheshire, that describes itself as "the complete golf resort".

Certainly, the cast list on a blustery but mercifully dry day, was distinguished enough, with Ian Woosnam on hand. Ian Botham was on caddy duty, as was David Lewellyn, the executive head golf professional for St David's Hotels, the owners of Carden. The same David Lewellyn, in fact, who won the World Cup with Woosnam in Hawaii in 1987.

Nicklaus's son, Steve, and David Heatwole, the senior design associate with the Nicklaus group, were responsible for most of the on-site ground decisions, but Big Jack was in overall charge, as he always is.



Nicklaus: philosophical

Teenager Rose closes in on dream destination

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

JUSTIN ROSE, 17, an amateur from Hampshire, who last year became the youngest-ever Walker Cup player, finished a superb joint second in the Open Championship final qualifying competition at Hillside yesterday. Rose completed rounds of 74 and 72 to finish alongside Mark Littor, of Wales, and South Africa's Dunhill Cup-winning David Frost, one behind Frenchman Thomas Levett.

"I'm mentally drained," Rose said. "It was tough out there and I could not have done more — I pulled four birdies out of the bag. "Amateur golf is fantastic but professional golf is where I want to be."

Six over par with eight to play, the talented teenager birdied the 11th, 12th, 16th and 18th in the demanding windy conditions. On the same course, Jack Nicklaus's son Gary was involved in a seven-man play-off for one spot at Royal Birkdale, having bogeyed the last three holes for a 78 and seven-over-par total of 151.

The former US Masters champion Larry Mizze survived by the skin of his teeth at Hillside, where 12 players qualified on the four-over-par mark of 146 with no need for a play-off.

Mizze birdied the last two holes — both par fives — for a 75 and said: "It was tough there — it could not have got any worse. I'm just happy to qualify."

Rodger Davis, joint runner-up to Nick Faldo at Muirfield in 1997, won with a level-par 142 by one from Gary Evans, from Worthing. European tour player Jose Coorens, from Argentina, still had hopes when he resumed on three over — but shot an incredible 105. He had nines on the 451-yard sixth and 513-yard seventh, an eight at 328-yard 10th, two sevens and seven sixes.

Ex-Ryder Cup star Gordon Brand Jr was right on the mark with Mizze after a 74. Fellow Scot Andy Oldcorn, who was halfway leader the last time the Open was held at Birkdale in 1991, made it with nothing to spare at Southport and Ainsdale, where there was also no play-off.

Oldcorn fired a superb second-round 71 to make it on 146, two over par. Jean Louis Guepy (69-72) was another French winner, by three from Kwi Michael Long, while Devon amateur Simon McCarty squeezed through as well on the limit despite a 78 today. He had been the joint first-round leader with a 68.

Top spot at West Lancashire, where five players were in a shoot-out for the final two places, was shared by Aberdeen's Paul Lawrie and Ireland's 45-year-old Des Smyth. Lawrie is no stranger to wind. His only European tour victory came when the Catalan Open two years ago was reduced to 36 holes because of gales.

Irish World Cup winner Paul McGinley qualified with a stroke to spare. Par fours at the first extra hole were good enough to take ex-Ryder Cup star Howard Clark and Lawrie's fellow Aberdonian Scott Henderson through at West Lanes.

But it was heartbreak for Ulster amateur Stuart Paul, Dunbar's David Drysdale and west countryman Andy Beal. Lee Westwood, meanwhile, is being tipped as the man to beat in the championship proper. Jack Nicklaus, who partnered the 25-year-old at last year's Masters, has few doubts.

"I've only played once with Lee at the Masters a year ago and I was very impressed with him," he said.

"I thought he was a very good player and I had not heard much about him at the time, but I've followed his progress since."

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes names like HESKETH, EVANS, LAWRIE, SMYTH, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Player Name and Score. Includes names like HILL, WESTWOOD, ROSE, etc.

MOTOR RACING McLaren quick to hit the panic button

Kevin Eason says the pressure is building on Ron Dennis

The cool facade that has protected McLaren's relentless pursuit of the Formula One world championship has cracked. Their decision to appeal against the result of the RAC British Grand Prix in front of motorsport's ruling body, the FIA, later this week only underlines the sudden desperation that has swept into the team's season.

Once dominant with two drivers fighting between themselves for the title, now Ferrari and Michael Schumacher are within a race of taking over the lead in the constructors' and drivers' championships. The effect of Ferrari's comeback has been dramatic on morale inside the McLaren garage.

There seems little doubt that he will have to "ride shotgun" for Hakkinen over the last seven races of the season, in the same way that Eddie Irvine is detailed to protect Schumacher. Ron Dennis, McLaren's team director, will not instruct Coulthard to accept the subsidiary role — he will expect it. "We don't have to tell the drivers what to do," Dennis said. "It is automatic for each driver to support the other and we would expect that to happen. We do

not have to step in because the drivers will take the decisions for themselves." Coulthard only silted off at Silverstone because he was chasing Hakkinen. If he had played the Irvine role, Coulthard could have fended off Schumacher to allow Hakkinen to collect maximum points.

Outwardly, Dennis refuses to alter his creed, saying: "It may be that by allowing the drivers to compete equally, we get to the end of the season and don't win the championship as a result. That is a view that other people might not agree with — maybe even the other drivers at McLaren — but I believe it is the correct way to go about winning."

The clear difference between us [and Ferrari] is in using cars strategically to win the world championship, using one driver to make sure that the other has optimum performance.

We have the ability to do that at any time in the season, but this is not the time. It is more important that we win more races than anyone else in a season and, to me, the constructors' championship is more important than the drivers' championship. There could be other circumstances where we could accelerate the way the drivers work together, but we are not in that situation yet. Both drivers will go out in each race with an equal chance.

SAILING Boats make most of sun, sea and sail

FROM EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT IN CORK

FORD Cork Week got underway in superb sailing conditions yesterday, with the sun at last breaking through and all 17 classes revelling in a generally fresh northwest Atlantic breeze that varied between 12 and 30 knots.

In what were, at times, demanding conditions there was plenty of drama, with several dismastings and a serious crash in Class O, featuring the biggest boats at the regatta. Jonathan Wardill's Jack Cassidy-designed old IOR racer, Australian Mail, and Philip Tolhurst's Warrior V were in collision, leaving the former badly holed and possibly unable to continue the series.

The Class O winner in the opening coastal race yesterday was William Roberts's X-42. Stripped, ahead of Richard Loftus's Swan 65 Desperado of Cowes.

In Class I, Ken Trench's Prima 38, Diva, took the honours, while in Class 2 Chris Jago's Swan 44 was first home. The Sigma 38s concluded their overnight race in the morning with Reggie Lee from Dublin in Fat Chance taking the honours. In the 33s another huge fleet has made it to Crosshaven with no less than 71 crews taking the starting gun for the opening coastal race yesterday at the start of what promises to be a competitive national championship.

First across the line yesterday was class secretary Jack Kelly in Moonshine, in a race affected by changes in wind velocity and which saw a top echelon racing clear of the chasing pack.

BOXING McCreesh out to show he is serious

By SRINUKAR SEN BOXING CORRESPONDENT

GEOFF MCCREESH gets a chance to get his career back on course tonight when he defends his British welterweight title against Michael Smyth, of Barry, at the Rivermead Leisure Centre, Reading.

The Bracknell man was removed from the EBU ratings last November for a year and fined £5,000 after testing positive for steroids following his bout for the European title with Michele Piccirillo, of Italy.

In his last meeting with Smyth, in 1995, McCreesh was thrown out for holding a year after that he was disqualified for butting another opponent, Steve Goodwin.

Jim Evans, McCreesh's manager, defends his charge. "He was the most hot-headed sportsman around, but now he's serious," he said. "Every morning he goes running in the hills and then comes back to my house and hits a truck tyre 300 times with a sledgehammer, while I cook him a traditional English breakfast. In the evening he spars with heavyweights."

McCreesh will need to be at his fittest to deal with Smyth. It was in trying to recover from one of Smyth's blows that he held on too long and was disqualified. Just before that, though, McCreesh had the Welshman on the floor three times.

Smyth had an important win last August against Peter Richardson, of whom great things were expected. Smyth's third-round defeat by Kevin Leushing in 1995, however, seems to point to a win for McCreesh, who stood up to Leushing's blows when they met. Despite being cut above the right eye in the second round, McCreesh took the fight to Leushing and stopped him in the tenth. If McCreesh has prepared for Smyth, he should be able to win inside the distance.

Vertical advertisements on the right edge of the page, including 'Wrigley's Odys', 'Gloucester for test', and 'FIXTURES'.

FOOTBALL: REDKNAPP PERSUADES STRIKER TO JOIN WEST HAM

Wright extends London odyssey with £1m move

IAN WRIGHT has completed his transfer from Arsenal to West Ham United. The England international forward made the move across London for a two-year contract thought to be worth in excess of £1 million.

Wright broke Cliff Bastin's Arsenal record of 178 goals last season, but amid fears that he will be presented with few first-team opportunities in the next year, he held talks with Harry Redknapp, the Arsenal manager, last week.

"Ian Wright has a huge amount to offer both as a player and as a person," Redknapp said of the 34-year-old forward. "He may not be in the first flush of youth, but he has great enthusiasm, and he is a motivating player. He can still score goals. Had he been fit, I'm sure he would have played in the World Cup finals, and that's not bad for the fee we have paid for him."

World Cup finals in France, but did not make an appearance. He was a member of the Rosenborg side that has played in the European Cup Champions' League for the last three seasons, and scored the goal that knocked AC Milan out of the tournament two years ago.



Brothers in arms: Redknapp and Wright show their delight yesterday at the striker's move to Upton Park

Gloucestershire braced for test of title mettle

JOHN BRACEWELL visited Cheltenham for the first time yesterday and declared himself inspired by the setting for one of the most enduring and best-supported cricket festivals. Gloucestershire, fifth in the county championship, entertain Sussex, who are third, at the College today and Surrey, the leaders, next week in a combination that will severely test their title credentials.

Even by recent schizoid standards, the week ahead will have a disorientating effect on those who set their ball calendars by the fixtures. Four championship matches begin tomorrow, with Surrey - still waiting to discover the extent of Graham Thorpe's back problem - attempting to increase their lead against Middlesex at Guildford. Warwickshire take on Hampshire in a floodlit Axa League game tonight, and there are also 'Sunday' league games on Saturday, at Cheltenham and Leicester.

Teen spirit supports national agenda

THE future of Minor Counties representative teams is in the balance, but the 20-strong association maintains unwavering support to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) in player development. John Shepperd, the manager, and Philip Oliver, the coach, are adopting a bold approach to promote more young talent towards the Test arena.

until discussions take place at Lord's in October. Shepperd continued: "Whether the minor counties side in the AON Trophy will become an ECB XI, selected from our 20 teams, plus the 18 county boards, is unknown, but we, as the present management team, would like to be involved."

Simmons century eases Leicestershire heartache

THE OVAL (Leicestershire won): Leicestershire (pts) beat Surrey by 44 runs (D/L method). PHIL SIMMONS gave Leicestershire the pick-me-up they needed after their humiliating defeat in the Benson and Hedges Cup Final, by leading them to a reassuring victory that keeps them in contention for the AXA League, as well as the Britannia Assurance county championship and the NatWest Trophy.

close to his belligerent best when he was taking 11 in one over from Saqlain and 19 in another from Ward, including his six. Simmons had lost Wells in the second over, caught behind chasing a wide ball from Benjamin, but he was then joined by Ben Smith in a second-wicket partnership of 195 in 30 overs which effectively settled the match.

How a side which is leading the championship can perform so shamefully in the league when they have so many international players in their midst, beggars belief but it did look as though ineptitude was degenerating into disinterest, judging from some of Surrey's work in the field. They did manage to take eight more wickets for the addition of only 46 runs, including those of Simmons, run out by Adam Holojacek, and Smith, caught behind off Tudor for 87, but the vagaries of the Duckworth/Lewis method, which came into force when showers reduced the match to 38 overs, did not improve their mood when they were set to score 265 to beat Leicestershire's 252 for nine.

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WORLD CUP 98

Oliver Holt says a fond farewell to a tournament that exceeded expectations



"Hodde hardly covered himself in glory. His handling of Beckham and Owen smacked of someone whose knack for man-management has deserted them at precisely the wrong time." Photographs: Marc Aspland

England send regrets as France parties

The sadness that often accompanies the end of a festival that has been so eagerly awaited for so long has not cast its pall over this World Cup. If, in one way, it finished in France's victory over Brazil in the Stade de France on Sunday night, so in another it continued in the orgy of celebration, horn-blasting and flag-waving that convulsed the Champs-Élysées and every town and village into the early hours.

That the tournament should have ended on such an emotional high, that the hosts should have breathed extra life into it right until the last of its 33 days of competition, was no more than it deserved. It may not have been full of outstanding skill, nor did it boast one dominant team, but the sixteenth World Cup was an exuberant, happy spectacle that brought entertainment back to the forefront of football's premier fête.

that there was not one pre-eminent team. Germany were labouring, Argentina were not the force everyone had expected, Brazil were inconsistent in their brilliance and unsure in defence, Italy were a spent force. England's fate appeared to have been sealed by their defeat to Romania.

reached new heights but, more important, his handling of Beckham and Owen smacked of someone whose knack for man-management has deserted them at precisely the wrong time. It got lost in the controversy over Beckham, but what Hodde achieved was simply not good enough.

The damage had already been done. A second-round match against Croatia — despite the fact that they made the semi-finals — would have been infinitely easier than the clash with the South Americans.

Index puts finger on Petit's value to hosts

EMMANUEL PETIT, the Arsenal midfielder, was the most effective performer in the World Cup finals. In an exclusive table produced for The Times by Carling Opta, Petit leads a French clean sweep, ahead of Zinedine Zidane and Lilian Thuram.

Analysts compiled the table using in-depth statistical data, based on objective criteria, to rank players' performances. Every touch of the ball in every match was fed into the database of the "Football 100" system. Players were divided into categories — goalkeeper, defender, full back, midfielder, attacking midfielder, player and striker — and points were adjusted to ensure fair comparisons. The final index was determined by average points per minute on the pitch (multiplied by 100).

THE TOP 100

Table with 3 columns: Pos, Player (Country), Pts. Lists top 100 players from the World Cup.



Salas, left, and Oliseh excelled as goalscorers demonstrated their art

Suker's lasting love affair with goals brings golden reward

Kevin McCarra suggests that the best strikers have a greedy streak. "I believe that, you'll believe anything."

In England, Suker is best known for the chip with which he beat Peter Schmeichel in Croatia's 3-0 win over Denmark at Euro 96.

was no longer sure of his place in a team that could also call upon Fernando Morientes, Pedrag Mijatovic and Raul. When Real won the European Cup in May, Suker made only a token appearance, as a substitute, in the 89th minute.



Suker, out of form before France 98, returned to his best

Advertisement for Forest Mere Health Farm. Text: "SAVE £400 ON A HEALTH FARM STOP SMOKING COURSE". Includes details about the course and contact information.

Presence of strength to... (partial text from adjacent page)

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WORLD CUP 98

Team ethic proves key to ruling the world

By ROB HUGHES

PARDON France. We underestimated you, and in winning the World Cup that Jules Rimet founded...

"The very essence of the life of my players and myself," Jacquet had said before the World Cup began...

Yesterday, when only the street cleaners moved around the Champs-Élysées throughout the morning...

Funny how things turn out, for Deschamps, "Little Big Boss" as he is affectionately known by the team...

However, at Clairefontaine, the France team's retreat near Paris, Deschamps so often soothed the waters between the French media...

The priority for the France players today is to try to persuade their entraîneur to revoke his pledge to quit the national team job at the end of this month...

Indeed, in his quietness is the satisfaction. He will get, as will the players, the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur...

And real life is represented by this achievement. How magnificent it was to see Jacques Chirac, the Head of State, and Lionel Jospin, the Prime Minister, embracing...

bracing, kissing and recognising each of the players, irrespective of background. Bye-bye, Jean-Marie Le Pen, the reviled fascist who had targeted this team as "artificial"...

Against them, Brazil, by no standards an authentic Brazil team of beauty or great class, fell as individuals. The astonishing behaviour of the team officials and doctors surrounding the pre-match mayhem over Ronaldo was almost matched by the emasculation of Roberto Carlos...

France took full advantage to become the seventh winners in 16 tournaments. They had timing, they had home advantage, except that it is the first time since Argentina in 1978 that a host country has withstood the great expectations of the people to win the World Cup...

They had their luck. When France were timid against Paraguay, Laurent Blanc scored a precious goal after 114 barren minutes. When the defence was breached by Croatia in the semi-finals, they enjoyed great good fortune when Zvonimir Boban, Croatia's captain, carelessly allowed Lilian Thuram to steal the ball from behind him...

Possibly, it was Thuram, whose parents hail from Guadeloupe, who reminded us that footballers are human, susceptible to all the emotions of ordinary people. It was pointed out to him, at one of the many press conferences where the France players appeared relaxed and remarkably united, that Thuram's father had been pictured on television wearing a shirt with his son's No 15. "To be a father is not simply to bring a child into this world," Thuram said, emotionally...

"It is to take care of that child and to give him direction and guidance. It's my mother who always did this for me. I'm surprised that today, because of the World Cup and because the cameras are on my father, that he puts on that jersey and speaks of his son. It's not going to change things because of a World Cup..."

Thuram's father had walked out of the family home while he was an infant. The player is right, a World Cup is an adventure, in the case of Brazil finally a misadventure, but it takes more to change the real values in society and in life.



The gloved hand of Barthez is one of many trying to touch the coveted trophy while, below, Jacquet, surrounded by the world's photographers, takes sole possession of the prize

Abysmal Brazil defence explodes myth of Zagallo

Brian Glanville on the legendary coach whose luck finally ran out on Sunday

Did we, at the Stade de France on Sunday night, see the explosion of the myth of Zagallo?

As an excellent, untrusting outside left, who surmounted the criticisms of a press and public who wanted something more spectacular, Zagallo won World Cup medals in 1958 and 1962, when his contribution was crucial. As a coach, he was a late replacement for the volatile João Saldanha before the 1970 tournament, licking Brazil back into shape enough to become champions in Mexico.

In 1974, when Pelé — who was more interested in making money in the United States to pay off his enormous debts — refused to participate, the team that Zagallo took to West Germany largely tried to compensate for its inadequacies with a bruising approach.

In 1994, Zagallo was No 2 to Carlos Alberto Parreira, and the World Cup was won again. On Sunday, it most depressingly was not. This was probably Brazil's worst performance since their ageing team fell out of the World Cup in Liverpool in 1966. Yet even before a ball was kicked in the final, a great World Cup competitor of the past, Johan Cruyff of Holland, was exhorting the Brazil team: "I hope France go on to win this final. I am not going to say that they will, because Brazil are a strong team, but I hope so for the sake of football because the play produced by Zagallo's team is really poor," Cruyff said.

"I said at the start of the tournament that I did not like this team and I still say that... It would be really bad for football if Brazil won with such poor play because this team is imitated throughout the world."

All credit to the French, ably captained by the combative Didier Deschamps. Yet, sour as it may seem, one cannot help thinking that the French won faute de mieux. They did, in the first half against Brazil, show a pleasing confidence that had clearly built up as one success followed another.

They had, too, the hero of the occasion in Zinedine Zidane, a greatly gifted player, known chiefly as one who makes the bullets for others to fire. This time, however, while the glaring deficiencies of the French attack were exposed, he scored with two spectacular headers.

Ah, that attack! If only France had a centre forward! Another Just Fontaine or even a Jean-Pierre Papin. It looks as if Stéphane Guivarch may represent another

unhappy plunge into the transfer market by Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle United manager. A novice striker could surely have put away the two chances he missed so ineptly. And when Christophe Dugary succeeded him, he missed from almost as good an opening himself.

These opportunities, let it be stressed, were given away by the abysmal Brazil defence. Right across the back four, solidity and security were lacking. Roberto Carlos remains a wayward positional player. Cafu was responsible for giving away one of those chances, and Junior Baiano another.

In 1970, Zagallo's team in Mexico hardly had the most concrete of defences. Indeed, Felix, the goalkeeper, was perhaps the worst ever to win a World Cup medal, content to watch the high crosses fly by as though he were an aeroplane spotter. Nor was the central defence much of a guarantee.

But the 1970 version of Brazil excelled thanks to the tremendous strength of their midfield, with those two sublime left-footers, Gerson and Rivelino, and the brilliance of an attack inspired by a magnificent Pelé. Holland succumbed to Brazil only on penalties, but faded out feebly in the second half of their third-place play-off match against Croatia.

The Dutch played brilliantly though only in spasms. But, as a team, they could scarcely be compared to the wonderfully exciting side, playing exhilarating total football, that lost the World Cup final in Munich 24 years ago.

That final was a West German victory. This World Cup has been a German disaster. Bertie Vogts, that survivor of a coach, deplores the lack of young players coming through in his country. His was a team that had grown old together and how it showed.

Nor was the Italy team a patch on many of its predecessors. Cesare Maldini, that catenaccio man, bewailed his lack of midfield players and indeed, they simply do not seem to be coming through. Christian Vieri, whose goals were so important to a team that should have been counted out against Chile, learnt his first football in Australia!

England come out of the tournament with credit. Two pieces of idiocy frustrated them. Firstly, the astounding preference of Glenn Hoddle, the coach, for the lumbering Teddy Sheringham for most of the game against Romania. Secondly, David Beckham's moment of madness, when he got himself sent off against Argentina. But how could a player of Steve McManaman's gifts be given less of a chance than Paul Merson, surely a blast from the past?

'This was Brazil at their worst since 1966'

Presence of Desailly lends strength to team of talents

Goalkeeper: Jose Luis Chilavert (Paraguay)

One of the few who lived up to all the hype, Chilavert may not have fulfilled his dream of scoring a goal in the final but still proved in the four games he played that he could dominate the area and stop shots like no other in this competition. Came close to scoring with a free kick in the opening game against Bulgaria but it was his almost arm-banded defence of France for 115 minutes of their second-round match that wins him the vote.

Right back: Cafu (Brazil)

When the rest of the Brazil defence let the side down, Cafu was impressively consistent in his solidity and edges out Lilian Thuram as the best attacking full back in this World Cup. Thuram may have scored twice in France's semi-final against Croatia but he nearly cost them the game with two defensive lapses. Too Cafu did not suffer any of those Brazil missed him badly when he was suspended for the semi-final against Holland.

Centre back: Marcel Desailly (France)

The best player in the tournament, despite his lousy start, Desailly was the linchpin of the final. Desailly kept France in the competition with his leadership and his interventions when his attack was missing. The most commanding player in the most assured defence, he will be a great addition to Arsenal in the FA Cup Premier-ship.

Centre back: Frank de Boer (Holland)

Squeezes in front of Laurent Blanc in this position because of his basic, gritty, fearless performance against Brazil in the semi-final in Marseille. His last-ditch penalty-area tackle on Ronaldo when the game was deep in extra time was the bravest of the tournament. His raking pass for his winner against Argentina in the quarter-final will also live long in the memory.

Oliver Holt picks his XI to take on allcomers from 1998 World Cup

Left back: Bixente Lizarazu (France)

Everyone assumed that this position would be dominated by Roberto Carlos. But while the Brazilian straggled, Lizarazu was a revelation. Quick, strong and possessing wonderful balance and a sweet left foot, he linked well with Petit and scored one of the goals of the tournament against Saudi Arabia.

Right midfield: Jay-Jay Okocha (Nigeria)

Would be playing slightly out of position here but that is part of the joy of Okocha, he looked as though he could play in any offensive role. Gary Neville said before the tournament that Okocha was the only man who had ever executed a training ground trick on him during a match and his skills were dazzling. High point was the opening game against Spain.

Attack: Michael Owen (England)

The pity was that we saw him all too briefly. Unwisely restrained by Glenn Hoddle until England had already thrown away their chance of winning group G, Owen left such a startling imprint in the only full match he played against Argentina that he may have taken over from Ronaldo as the man of the world's most coveted striker.

Attack: Davor Suker (Croatia)

There has to be a place for Suker here even though Bergkamp, Marcello Sales and Christian Vieri have strong claims. Too Suker was the one outstanding individual in Croatia's finely-meshed team. His clinical finishing was an example to everyone.

Centre midfield: Edgar Davids (Holland)

Closest rival to Desailly for player of the tournament, the strength of character that shone through in all Davids' performances were all the more impressive because of the problems that have afflicted him in the past. He played like a man possessed and was so inspirational against Brazil that Holland deserved to win because of him.

Left midfield: Rivaldo (Brazil)

Had a poor game in the final, but didn't they all. Faced as the tournament progressed but in the early games, he was outstanding and overshadowed the sadly out-of-sorts, palpably unfit Ronaldo as Brazil's most potent attacker. Fine pass set up Ronaldo for Brazil's goal against Holland but his best performance was probably against Denmark when he scored twice.

Midfield-attacker: Zinedine Zidane (France)

Struggled in the early stages to live up to the huge expectations of all of France heaped upon his shoulders. Neville said before the tournament that Zidane was the only man who had ever executed a training ground trick on him during a match and his skills were dazzling. High point was the opening game against Spain.

Attack: Davor Suker (Croatia)

There has to be a place for Suker here even though Bergkamp, Marcello Sales and Christian Vieri have strong claims. Too Suker was the one outstanding individual in Croatia's finely-meshed team. His clinical finishing was an example to everyone.

Impact reflected in bonanza figures

By JOHN GOODBODY

A TOTAL of 475 million Britons watched live coverage of 56 World Cup matches, an average of 8.5 million per game, statistics showed yesterday.

Never before has one event so dominated sports ratings for so long as the World Cup, with the average audience being a million more than in 1990, the last time that England took part in the finals of the quadrennial competition.

The figures are even more remarkable because of the increasing tendency for people to watch matches in pubs and clubs. All figures are calculated for home audiences only.

The highest figure this summer was the match between Argentina and England, with an average of 23.6 million, on June 30. However, even this statistic is still not the largest-ever audience for a sports event, partly because only ITV screened the match live.

The record British rating remains an average of 25.2 million for the 1990 World

Cup semi-final between England and West Germany, which was shown by both the BBC (16.69 million) and ITV (8.52 million).

The only fixture screened live by both channels during this year's tournament was the final between France and Brazil. This was watched by an average of 22.31 million with a peak of 24.1 million. The average for the BBC was 15.75 million while ITV averaged 6.56 million.

Jonathan Martin, BBC's Controller of Sport, said: "I cannot recall any event having such impact as this World Cup. Euro 96 gave us a very good hint of what was possible. It has helped that the event was on our doorstep and in the same time-zone."

Martin said that the high figures for non-England and Scotland matches showed a "non-jingoistic approach. Viewers know that the World Cup, like the Olympic Games, is the genuine thing, and they are keen to watch outstanding foreigners taking part."

LEADING VIEWING FIGURES

Table with columns: Match, Channel, Average. Lists matches like Argentina v England (June 30, 8pm) and France v Brazil (July 12, 8pm) with viewing figures for BBC and ITV.

Channel hopping sets up the day's perfect view

Struggling into the storm-lashed skies in a sea-through "bubble" helicopter, crammed with four passengers plus baggage, is an unerring experience. "Bit heavy, aren't we?" the pilot said, coaxing his machine into the aerial rush-hour traffic. "Been enjoying ourselves today?" The Northamptonshire countryside pans out below and Silverstone is left behind amid a swarm of bees departing its hive.

Displaying frightening dexterity — one hand on the joystick, the other holding a map — Baron von Richthofen does his best to inspire confidence en route to Cranfield aerodrome in Bedfordshire. "Look at that place, bet it cost a few bob," he said. "Let's go a bit lower and spoil their Sunday." Definitely a Vietnam veteran, probably suffering from much-delayed post-traumatic stress syndrome.

It is the day of "The Glorious Twelfth", ITV's double bill of British Grand Prix and World Cup final. Jim Rosenthal, presenter, Brian Barwick, controller of sport, and Roger Philcox, technical producer, have negotiated the first half and are heading for St-Denis, where Brazil will take on France. A private plane completes the journey to Le Bourget, at 17,000 feet but in less gung-ho style, and the Stade de France is reached shortly before kick-off. Philcox has planned the Channel hop with careful pre-

Aerial option leads to sporting feast, Russell Kempson reports

decision, much as it takes to plot a path through the logistical maze of covering a grand prix. Horrendous weather, rendering many of the 30 cameras useless, and a complicated, controversial conclusion, with Michael Schumacher apparently winning, had been deftly handled. "It can get a bit hectic," Rosenthal said. "Sometimes, there's no point in having a script. The words just come out, they have to, I think it went all right."

Rosenthal, 50, is the anchor-man, the public face of calm as chaos reigns around him and his earpiece to the control van burns Ferrari red. The award for leading sports presenter from the Royal Television Society indicates that he does it better than most and he has perhaps made up for lost ground since becoming the first head boy at Magdalen College School, Oxford, not to go on to university.

After 18 years in television, he fronts most of the commercial network's output on football, boxing, athletics, rugby union and Formula One. Since travelling to Montreal on June 3 for the Canadian Grand Prix, he has managed

only a few hours at his home in Cookham Dean, Berkshire, with his wife, Chrissy, and son, Tom, 10.

"It's been a fantastic experience," he said. "If you can't enjoy going to the grands prix and World Cup, you can't enjoy anything. The saddest part was having to miss the dads v kids cricket match at Tom's school. That affects you much more than continually getting up early and going to bed late."

As the endless rehearsals drone on at Silverstone, in the £250,000 custom-built mobile studio, Rosenthal's dress-sense is discussed by two female production assistants. "I'm worried about Jim's top button. It should be undone, it's not cool," one said. "Don't worry," the other replied. "He won't do it."

Criticism is a constant companion and even the unflattering comparison of his distinctive visage with that of a medieval devil, as revealed on Fantasy World Cup Live, is shrugged aside. "I don't watch the show, I don't really like it, but you can't appeal to everyone and it's unreal to expect that. There's no point in being sensitive about it."

Rosenthal arrives in Paris and is given the night off. It will be the first World Cup match he has attended without having to work. "It made a nice change but it was still nice to be part of it," he said later. "Sitting back and thinking about it, it was some day."

Crash is latest misfortune to befall Britain's leading light



A tranquil scene on the road to Cork before the third stage of the Tour de France is beset by the drama of Boardman's crash

Boardman's luck runs out

CHRIS BOARDMAN'S dramatic exit from the 1998 Tour de France after barely 300 kilometres of racing is the latest misfortune to befall a rider whose short professional career has been dogged by crashes and health problems.

Yesterday's heavy fall, described as a "disaster" by his agent, Peter Woodworth, mirrored those of 1995 and 1997 when the Merseysider crashed out of the Tour in equally spectacular fashion. "Losing him is a big blow to the team," Stuart O'Grady, Boardman's GAN team-mate and close friend, said. "Chris is the nucleus of the team and holds everything together. It's really unfortunate that he's been forced out of the race through injury for two years in a row."

In 1995, on a foul night in St Briev, Boardman crashed after only a few minutes of the opening Tour prologue, breaking his ankle and narrowly avoiding more serious injury as his following team car skidded to a halt immediately behind him.

In last year's Tour, after a strong performance in the first week of the race, Boardman crashed on a descent in the Pyrenees injuring muscles in his back and neck. Although barely able to turn his head, he determinedly rode on but after humiliation in the Tour's first time trial in St Etienne, he abandoned in tears the following morning.

Then in August last year, while riding in Britain at the Rochester Classic, he fell again and suffered further injuries that ruined the remain-

der of his 1997 season. Since then he has fought to overcome a crisis in confidence and self-belief that led him to consider retiring from the sport. But a new training programme and a spell of promising results this spring, which included two stage wins in the Prudential Tour of Britain and in June's Dauphine Libre, gave him new confidence before the start of the Tour de France.

After winning the prologue in Dublin on Saturday in spectacular fashion, Boardman's repeated intention was to reach the finish in Paris, a feat he has now only managed once in five attempts.

But in spite of that determination, Boardman fell 55 kilometres from the finish in Cork and rolled headfirst into a dry headstone wall after Johan Bruyneel, of Belgium, and Francesco Casagrande, of Italy, fell in front of him as the field wound up speed on the approach to a hotly contested intermediate sprint.

Once word of Boardman's crash had spread around the riders, the field, following Tour tradition, slowed dra-

matically out of respect to the race leader. "Nobody wants to carry on racing with the yellow jersey lying bleeding in the road," Grady said.

Yet even as Boardman lay unconscious in the road, Erik Zabel, the German sprinter, took enough time in the day's second intermediate sprint to make up his overnight deficit on the Englishman and assume leadership of the Tour for the first time in his career.

"Today it was difficult for me and the team to get the yellow jersey," said at the finish. "Last year I came very close so this feels good. I wish Boardman well but I think I would have taken over the lead anyway even without his crash."

The strong winds that swept across the Tour field brought crash after crash with several of the favourites, including Laurent Jalabert, of France, Laurent Brochard, the world champion, and Marco Pantani, of Italy, falling heavily only to be forced into desperate pursuits to make up lost ground.

Yet the field regrouped on the twisting run-in to Cork and the sprinters moved to the front as the stage entered its final ten kilometres. Zabel, who had already clinched the race lead thanks to the time bonuses en route, opted out of the final gallop to the line, leaving the frenetic finish to Jan Svorada, the Czech sprinter, who held off Robbie McEwen, of Australia, and Mario Cipollini, of Italy, to take his first stage win in the Tour since 1994.

FROM JEREMY WEITLIE IN CORK



TOUR DE FRANCE DETAILS

SECOND STAGE
LEADING POSITIONS (Erimothorby to Cork, 205.5km): 1, J Svorada (Cz, Mapei) 5hr 45min (bonus: 2); R McEwen (Aus, Rabobank); 3, M Cipollini (It, Saeco); 4, A Turtzapin (R, Telekom); 5, T Steels (Bel, Mapei); 6, E Magrini (Fr, Française des Jeux); 7, J Kirsipuu (Est, Casino); 8, N Misal (It, Raso-Scott); 9, J Billewiese (Hol, T.M.G.); 10, S Marinello (It, Potti); 11, P Gaumont (Fr, Cofidis); 12, F Guidi (It, Potti); 13, F Moncassien (Fr, GAN); 14, M Traversari (It, Mercatone Uno); 15, A Castagnoli (It, Windigo Seguros); 16, A Talmaci (Bel, Lotto); 17, E Zabel (Ger, Telekom); 18, D Nazoni (Fr, Française des Jeux); 19, V Djavanian (Russ, Big Mat Auber); 20, N Jalabert (Fr, Cofidis); 160, M Salmari (GB, Française des Jeux) all same time.
Ritardé: C Boardman (GB, Gan).
LEADING OVERALL POSITIONS: 1, Zabel 10hr 21min 16sec; 2, Steele at 7sec; 3, Moncassien same time; 4, A Olano (Sp, Banesto); 5, L Jalabert (Fr, Cofidis); 6, R Jahn (US, Cofidis); 7, C Moreau (Fr, Festina); 8, J Urich (Ger, Telekom) all same time; 9, Svorada 10; 10, McEwen 11; 11, A Zülle (Swit, Festina) same time; 12, L Dufaux (Swit, Festina); 13, Tchmil 14; 14, J Dumens (Fr, Casino) same time; 15, V Sijmou (Russ, US Postal Service) 15. Other: 95, Solandri 34.
TODAY: Third stage (Roscoff to Lorient, 171km).

Of tears and somersaults

Home Ground: Going for Gold
BBC2, 7.30pm (not in Wales)

A documentary from Leeds that will give powerful ammunition to those who think that little girls should be able to develop their sporting talent naturally and not have it forced. The film shows girls as young as nine in tears as they are trained for a gymnastics competition by Krassit and Daniela Nanov, husband and wife coaches from Bulgaria. Parents are divided. One parent says that while the British thing is not to be pushy, some children have succeeded because of pushy parents. Another calls Daniela, who admits screaming at the girls to get results, a wicked witch. Professor Margaret Taylor, from Leeds Metropolitan University, is appalled at the whole process. The girls are being trained with the Olympics in mind but with a minimum age for gymnasts of 16 they will not be able to compete until 2004.



Murder mystery with Penny Downie. Flora Montgomery and Ricci Harnett (ITV, 9pm)

P.D. James's A Certain Justice
ITV, 9.00pm

The latest P.D. James story to reach the screen is part classic detection and partly an excursion into territory more associated with James's fellow crime writer, Ruth Rendell. How well the two fit together must be for viewers to decide, just as it was for Rendell who came up with the idea of Vera Drake (Penny Downie), an ambitious barrister with a knack of attracting enemies within the profession, which means that her demise leaves no shortage of suspects. The whodunnit element is developed with all the skill of the golden-age practitioners but with added characterisation. The lead actor comes in the shape of Gary Asbe (Ricci Harnett), a young rough of homicidal tendencies but persuasive charm who seduces Aldridge's daughter. The post-detective Adam Dalglissh (Roy Marsden) investigates.

early warning centre picked up a fast-moving object approaching its airspace. The retaliation was set in train but fortunately the object was innocuous and fell into the sea. The argument of the film is the former Soviet nuclear arsenal, and its early warning system, has fallen into such a state of disrepair as to increase greatly the risk of war by accident. Even a junior officer could launch a missile on the West without authorisation. The Russians, not surprisingly, insist that the safeguards are still stringent.

In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great
BBC2, 9.30pm

The time was when Michael Wood, he of the tight jeans and boyish looks, was hardly off our screens as he went in pursuit of some giant of ancient history. Now after a long gap, he is back. Although his hair is curiously darker than before, and his trousers looser, the formula is unchanged. This time Wood retraces the battles and conquests of Alexander the Great in a journey of more than 20,000 miles which starts in northern Greece and ends on the edge of China. Wood keeps talking about the need to sift facts from legend, but the facts are sparse and the legends are so hard to verify that the narrative style will not be at all tiresome. Wood makes up in enthusiasm what he might lack in historical rigour. Peter Waymark

Equinox: Russian Roulette
Channel 4, 9.00pm

If you thought that the end of the Cold War meant the end of the Russian nuclear threat, this film does its best to convince you otherwise. It even claims that two years ago the world came closer to a nuclear war than at any time since the Cuban missile crisis of 1962. This was when the Russian

BBC Young Composers Workshop
Radio 3, 9.20pm

There are several positive legacies left by Nicholas Kenyon, the outgoing Controller of Radio 3, and one is his consistent commitment to the nurturing of young musical talent. This programme is an outgrowth of the Loyce Szeké Young Composers' Workshop, in which five promising composers were chosen by established composers. Judith Bingham and James MacMillan, and given the chance, *Salve Splendor*, to develop in whichever way they chose. The most impressive thing is that the five works were considered so good that all five composers have been given further BBC commissions. Tonight, in a programme presented by Charles Hazlewood, the five works are played by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

Let The Good Times Roll
Radio 2, 9.00pm

Louis Jordan was an idiosyncratic musical figure who played a vital role in the integration of music in the United States just after the Second World War, at a time when black music and white music were very much played on opposite sides of the street in many parts of America. Jordan was the man who merged blues, rhythm and blues and later, rock'n'roll to take popular music out of black clubs and into white dance halls while retaining huge audiences in both locations. Jordan also did a great deal to get this new music on to the radio stations, which had previously played either black or white music but not both. Humphrey Lyttelton introduces Jordan's story and includes many of his million-sellers. Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jayne Meadows. Includes 12.30pm. Newsday 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Dave Pearson. Includes 5.45 Newsday 6.30 The Evening Service 8.30 Digital Update with Rachel Reynolds 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Charlie Jordan 4.00 Cive Warren

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wale Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Carl Davis Classics 8.00 Nigel Ogden 8.30 Let for the Good Times Roll. See Choice 10.00 Rodgers and Hart: A Thousand Songs 10.30 Richard Allison 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alan Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicoly Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm Russcos and Co 4.00 Nationwide 7.00am John Peel 7.30 Any Sporting Question? 9.00 Extra Time. Mark Steel and guests read the FA Cup fourth-round game between Fulham and Newcastle in 1956 11.00 Late Night Live with Nick Robinson 1.00am Up All Night with Fred Sharp 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Jonathan Ross 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbott 4.00 Robin Bantz 7.30 Ray Coles 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Peter Dinklage 5.00 Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.30am The New Talk Radio Breakfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deely 7.00 Anna Reabum 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins 5.00 Bill Overton

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Patric Trelewy, Includes Weber (Invitation to the Dance); Rossini (Una Voce Poco Fa); The Barber of Seville
9.00 Music Machine: Includes Bach; arr Kempff (Jesu Bleibet Meine Freude, BWV147 No 10); Stravinsky (Octet); Berlioz (Le Jeune Homme Breton, Op 13 No 4); Kraus (Symphony in C sharp minor, Op 13 No 4); Britten (Serenade for String Quartet in E minor, Op 59 No 2, Rasmovskiy)
10.30 Artist of the Week: Thomas Hampson
11.00 Sound Stories: Instrumental Revolutionaries. Richard Saker profiles the Spanish guitarist Andrés Ballester
12.00 Composer of the Week: Rameau
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert: Sumner of the Sea with Peter Hobbday. Includes Bach; arr Kempff (Jesu Bleibet Meine Freude, BWV147 No 10); Stravinsky (Octet); Berlioz (Le Jeune Homme Breton, Op 13 No 4); Kraus (Symphony in C sharp minor, Op 13 No 4); Britten (Serenade for String Quartet in E minor, Op 59 No 2, Rasmovskiy)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Mark Wigglesworth and Tadeusz Szulc. Includes: Ravel, piano, Tchaikovsky (Overture: Romeo and Juliet); Britten (Serenade for String Quartet in E minor, Op 59 No 2, Rasmovskiy); Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini); Shostakovich (Symphony No 5)

RADIO 4

6.00am Today, with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie. Includes 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.00 Unriddle the Evidence, with Clive Anderson
9.00 You Probably Think This Song is About You. The last of five programmes in which people who have inspired classic pop songs talk to Kate Saunders
9.45 (FM) Serial: A Boy from the Hogarth Press. Jamie Glover reads Richard Kennedy's memoir (r)
9.45 (LW) The Great of four recitals from Sumner of the Sea with Peter Hobbday. Includes: Bach; arr Kempff (Jesu Bleibet Meine Freude, BWV147 No 10); Stravinsky (Octet); Berlioz (Le Jeune Homme Breton, Op 13 No 4); Kraus (Symphony in C sharp minor, Op 13 No 4); Britten (Serenade for String Quartet in E minor, Op 59 No 2, Rasmovskiy)
10.00 News: Woman's Hour, with Martha Kearney
11.00 News: The Greatest City on Earth. Jonathan Glancy investigates how, in less than ten years' time, China will have created the world's first megacity of 40 million people, taking in the entire sweep of the Pearl River delta
11.30 Dinner Ladies. The last of Turan Air's six-part comedy drama series. With Barbara Dickson, Jean Haywood and Brigit Forsyth (r)
12.00 (FM) News: The Weather, with Liz Barclay and John Walle 12.57 Weather
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Report
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.30 Ideas of the Trade, Hostellers and publicans do battle. With chairman Nigel Cassidy
2.00 News: The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Hard Row to Portlock, by Eric Ffringo. The true story of the remarkable rescue, in their boat over five miles by land to save a ship in distress. With John Rows, Tom Bevan and Hugh Dickson. Director: John Cookson (r)
3.00 News: The Exchange. Call 0171-590 4444. Robin Lustig makes your views on a topical issue
3.30 A Room with a View. Midland Hotel (2/5)
3.45 Ways with Words. Four readings from the Ways with Words Festival. Darrington, Philippa Gregory reads from her novel *Earthly Joys* (2/4)

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198. MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 892. 909. 1.30 Ideas of the Trade, Hostellers and publicans do battle. With chairman Nigel Cassidy
2.00 News: The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Hard Row to Portlock, by Eric Ffringo. The true story of the remarkable rescue, in their boat over five miles by land to save a ship in distress. With John Rows, Tom Bevan and Hugh Dickson. Director: John Cookson (r)
3.00 News: The Exchange. Call 0171-590 4444. Robin Lustig makes your views on a topical issue
3.30 A Room with a View. Midland Hotel (2/5)
3.45 Ways with Words. Four readings from the Ways with Words Festival. Darrington, Philippa Gregory reads from her novel *Earthly Joys* (2/4)

WORLD SERVICE

7.00am News 7.15 Insight 7.30 Heritage 8.00 News 8.15 Of the Shed 8.30 Welcome to my World 8.45 The Last 9.00 News (848 only) News in German 9.10 Pause for Thought 9.15 Concert Hall 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Songs of Home 10.30 Slow Train 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsday 11.30 On Screen 11.45 Newsday 12.30pm Heritage 1.00 News (848 only) News in German 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Health Matters 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newsday 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack Hit List 4.00 News 4.05 Sports Roundup 4.15 Wesleyan 4.30 The Greenfield Collection (648 only) News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 6.00 News 6.15 Insight 6.30 Out for the Count (648 only) News in German 6.45 Sports Roundup 7.00 Newsday 7.30 One Planet 8.00 News 8.05 Outlook 8.25 Pause for Thought 8.30 News 8.35 Newsday 8.50 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Meridian Live 11.00 Newsday 11.30 Insight 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.05am Outlook 12.30 Megamix 1.00 Newsday 1.30 The Farming World 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Discovery 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Meridian Live 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 The World Today 5.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Michael Mappin 8.00 Henry Kelly. Includes the Record of the Week: The Flyer 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones introduces listeners' favourite pieces 2.00pm Concerto Introitus (Sinfonia Concertante in B flat major) 3.00 Jamie Croft. Travel, sport and business news 6.30 Newsday. Arts issues and news updates, with John Gunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Gunning introduces two hours of easy-listening sounds 9.00 Evening Concert (Hosokawa (Le Papillon); Ho Zhen Hsin/Chen Kang (Butterfly Lovers Concerto); Puccini (Vogelstern Bene from Madama Butterfly); Schumann (Papillons, Op 2); Franz Strauss (Moth Waltz); Bristow (Symphony in F Sharp minor) 11.00 Mann at Night. Music for the early hours with Alan Marr 2.00am Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

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Commonwealth Games hopes rest with Rolph and Hickman

SUSAN ROLPH and James Hickman will spearhead Great Britain's medal hunt against the favourites, Australia, in the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in September.

Australia are second to the United States at the top of the world swimming order. Yet, as Rolph, top of the Commonwealth rankings over 50 and 100 metres freestyle, and Hickman, at the helm over 200 metres butterfly, have shown at the England Commonwealth Games trials, which ended in Sheffield on Sunday, there is many a weakness to be exploited.

Rolph, 20, and coached by Ian Oliver in Newcastle, is also ranked second over 200 metres medley and will race for gold medals in two relays. She put much of her new-found speed at the trials down to the Adidas bodysuit she wore. This has been banned by the Commonwealth Games Council for England, which has contracted Speedo to sew the Games suits.

Hickman, 22, coached by Terry Denison in Leeds, is a medal hope in the 100 and 200 metres butterfly, 200 and 400 metres medley and the medley relay. The 200 metres butterfly offers the best chance of a one-two for England, with Stephen Parry, the European bronze medal-winner from Liverpool, providing strong support for Hickman.

Although he is Britain's best swimmer on a world stage, Paul Palmer, of University of Bath, has the toughest task because of Australia's crop of middle-distance freestylers - Ian Thorpe, Grant Hackett, Kieren Perkins and Daniel Kowalski.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 39

CRIBLÉ
(a) A type of engraving on wood or metal. "It means riddled with small holes... The effect of light and dark is produced in this type of engraving by staking a great number of small holes of different diameters in the substance of the wood, which all come white in the printing."

ESPADRILLE
(a) A canvas shoe with soles of twisted rope, originally worn in the Pyrenees. "Espadrilles are likely to come into favour with running men." Daily News, 1892.

GJETOST
(a) A Norwegian cheese made from goats' milk. "Sweet, rich, strong-flavored, brown, moist but firm enough to slice well."

GOMPA
(a) A Tibetan temple or monastery. "One of those religious establishments whose walls housed more than a fifth of Tibetan males."

ESDAY JULY 14 1998
ROUNDPUP
beats own
earnings

A chill wind recalls the winter of discontent

For a Labour Prime Minister, there are worse fates than Derek Draper. A Prime Minister could, for example, find himself in 10 Downing Street at a time when flared trousers and a lyrics by the Bee Gees are dominating the national culture. Even worse — well, slightly worse — he could be presiding over uncollected rubbish, unburied bodies and undelivered food supplies.

To do all that, the Prime Minister would have to be called James Callaghan. Sunny Jim was in charge of the country 20 years ago and last night's *Secret History: Winter of Discontent* (Channel 4) was a reminder that much as we may decry spin-doctors, fax machines, pagers vibrating in trousers and brash young men who only have to shove once a week, worse phenomena have occurred in the past.

The timing of this programme seemed odd, because the winter of

strikes that brought down Callaghan's regime and made way for Margaret Thatcher happened at a time of rising inflation, budgetary discontent in the public sector and terrible weather. Er... well yes. I suppose the timing was not so odd after all.

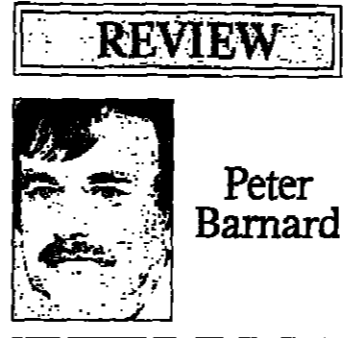
I doubt that more than one in a hundred people could name two union leaders now, but in 1978 such men were household names. Len Murray, Moss Evans, David Basnett, Ron Todd... there they all were last night, sounding like reasonable men who had inadvertently found themselves hired to manage a mob. Which in a way is what some of them were.

There was nothing secret about *Secret History*, but Channel 4 is fond of titles that give viewers the impression that they are living inside Peter Mandelson's right earlobe. The usual ennobled suspects Haatersley, Healey, Rodgers — gazed into their rear-view mirrors

and suggested that, although they were present when the pile-up occurred, they would not, given absolute control, have been on that particular road in the first place.

Not that there was much traffic about. The tanker drivers went on strike, leading to petrol shortages. The tanker drivers went back to work, but still did not deliver any petrol because they would not cross picket lines set up by the road haulage industry, the next to go on strike. Hospital workers, gravediggers in Liverpool, dustmen... you name them, they lit a brazier, scribbled a placard and formed a picket line.

Wages policy was the beginning and the end of the trouble, simple as that. The policy was a 5 per cent limit on pay rises, in both private and public sectors. The collapse of this policy began in the private sector, with a 17 per cent settlement



Peter Barnard

historically rather close to the trade unions in their departmental areas. David Ennals at Health was an example of that. I remember at one Cabinet committee Mr Ennals explaining why a 15 per cent settlement was something of a triumph for the Government. I think I knew it was all over then."

At least the Callaghan Government consisted of decent people gone awry. What are we to make of people who persist in designing weapons of biological warfare, even after they have signed up to an international treaty banning such vile means of destruction?

No, not more Saddam Hussein. The rotten state in question here is Russia, exposed in an excellent Tom Mangold documentary last night. Mangold is not a reporter you call in when you want a hagiography of Joan Collins. Mangold is Chief Reporter, Alarm and Despair, of which there is plenty about. Plague Wars: Rus-

sia — Apocalypse Delayed (BBC 1) may come fifteenth in the contest for snappiest title of the night but it comes first for alarming actuality.

Here was the former number two man on Russia's biological warfare programme telling us that the country is still at it, 21 years after signing the Biological Weapons Convention. Dr Ken Alibek, as he has styled himself since defecting to the West six years ago, was First Deputy Chief of Biopreparat, which is not a soap powder, it was the Soviet (and is now the Russian) biological weapons research section. After signing the convention, "the Soviets couldn't believe their luck at being left alone to carry out production and development."

Western scientists monitor this programme, but only with difficulty. Dr Christopher Davis, formerly of the Defence Intelligence Service, recalled visiting one Rus-

sian plant where, upon being shown a darkened chamber, he was told no light could be put on because the bulb had broken. Davis produced a torch, which was at first snatched away from him. Asked about dents in a steel door, obviously caused by explosive tests, the Russians claimed that the door had not fitted properly so workmen had hammered it into place.

If this sounds like no one more sinister than the plumber you had round last week, there was plenty of other evidence of people fiddling about with nasties such as anthrax and smallpox. But not just the Russians. Steve Preisler in Green Bay, Wisconsin, an amateur scientist and ex-convict, peddles dope about biological weapons in books and on the Internet. He calls himself Uncle Fester, which, given what anthrax can do to the human body, is about as sick as ironic jokes can get.

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- 6.00am Business Breakfast (24269)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (27559)
- 9.00 All Over the Shop (T) (3065530)
- 9.20 Kilroy (T) (3350606)
- 10.00 Meet the Challenge (4264379)
- 10.25 Style Challenge Classics (5319068)
- 10.55 Short Changes (1549733)
- 11.00 News (T) (5089648)
- 11.55 News (T) (6137578)
- 12.00 Every Second Counts (11559)
- 12.30pm Can't Cook, Won't Cook (879282)
- 12.55 Beautiful Things (T) (9930284)
- 1.00 News (T) and weather (2046)
- 1.30 Regional News (T) (1596153)
- 1.40 Neighbors (T) (4930207)
- 2.06 Perry Mason: The Case of the Sinister Spirit (T) (1518734)
- 3.35 Pingu (337795) 3.40 Playdays (547337) 3.45 Poppye (753153) 4.05 The Littlest Pet Shop (5014658) 4.20 Mr Wym (4769761) 4.35 Round the Twist (T) (3120627) 5.00 Newsround (T) (3078066) 5.10 Record Breakers (T) (6673207)
- 5.35 News (T) and weather (181)
- 6.00 News (T) and weather (191)
- 6.30 Regional News (443)
- 7.00 Summer Holiday Paula Yates in Sri Lanka: Jason Roberts reports on the Tenerife resort Playa de las Americas. Plus, Tenby, the medieval seaside town, and a golfing break in La Managa, Spain (T) (4795)
- 7.30 EastEnders Ruth receives a disturbing phone call from an old friend: Simon's dinner party is ruined (T) (627)
- 8.00 Animal Hospital Revisited Rolf Harris catches up on the progress of animals brought to the RSPCA's Harrisworth Hospital in the last series (T) (6443)
- 8.30 Crime Beat Marilyn Lewis reports on the increase in firearms-related crimes (T) (2578)
- 9.00 News (T) and weather (2172)
- 9.30 Crimewatch UK Nick Ross and Jill Dando ask for information on an armed raid on a jeweller's in Oxford and a serial rapist in Scarborough (T) (171627)
- 10.20 Panorama Special: South Africa — The Secret Killings Report on how former government officials in South Africa sponsored a programme of global assassination utilising illegal biological weapons (T) (228299)
- 11.00 Crimewatch UK Update (T) (737022)
- 11.10 Praying Mantis (1953) Thriller about a serial killer (Lane Seymour) who mimics a widower (Barry Boswick) into her deadly lair. Directed by James Keach (T) (607240)
- 12.35am Crazy from the Heart (1991) Romantic comedy, with Christine Lakin, Ruben Blades, William Russ and Robyn Lewis. A prim and proper school headmistress falls in love with a Latin-American chaperone (Directed by Thomas Schlamme) (T) (840825)
- 2.05 Weather (9395115)
- 2.10 BBC News 24

- 6.10am Nathan the Wise (7946066) 6.35 La Bonne Fomille (5471269)
- 7.00 Teletubbies (T) (1892358) 7.25 Dink, the Little Dinosaur (1804191) 7.50 Blue Peter (T) (4531511) 8.15 Willy Fog (2406646) 8.35 King Greenlingers (9672627) 8.45 The Record (2179714)
- 9.10 Hawkeye (T) (3352068) 9.50 Cartoon (8732991) 10.00 Teletubbies (83627)
- 10.30 Noble Thoughts (1506482) 10.40 Saatchi and Saatchi (9935311)
- 10.45 On the Beat (1982, b/w) Comedy with Norman Wisdom. Directed by Robert Asher (T) (2877244)
- 12.30pm Working Lunch (38714) 1.00 The Beechgrove Garden (26288) 1.30 People's Century: Survivors of the First World War describe the grim reality of the first global conflict (T) (1315366) 2.25 Cooking with Confidence: Recipes for a seasonal crop of soft fruit (T) (5224443) 2.40 News (T) (8972085) 2.45 Westminster (4052356) 3.25 News (T) (1518733)
- 3.30 Amelia Earhart: The Final Flight (1994) Biopic of the world-famous pilot. Directed by Yves Simoneau (T) (12397)
- 5.00 The Victorian Kitchen Garden (4531743) 5.35 Antiques Treasure Trail (74373) 6.55 A Day That Shook the World: Labour's landslide victory on July 26, 1945 (T) (873714)
- 6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (T) (150375)
- 6.25 Heartbeat High (T) (961787)
- 7.10 The O Zone Peter Andre: rapper Charli Baltimore and Matchbox 20 (339511)
- 7.30 Home Ground: Going for Gold Report on the training young girls undergo to reach the Olympic gymnastic team (T) (269) WALES: Homeland
- 8.00 Meet the Ancestors: The Wolf Den The discovery of a subterranean chamber in the Yorkshire Dales, containing the remains of human burials and the first recorded prehistoric footprint (T) (1085)
- 8.30 Ground Force Transforming a plain garden into a landscaped terrace in the Yorkshire Dales (3820)
- 9.00 Dad's Army (T) (8694)

- 6.00am GMTV (1342795)
- 9.25 Extreme Dinosaurs (T) (8641578)
- 9.50 Judge Judy (T) (4979795)
- 10.20 Regional News (7845608)
- 10.30 The Other Side of Paradise (1/2) Drama about a young doctor on a tropical island during the Second World War. With Jason Connery and Richard Wilson. Concludes tomorrow (T) (95131207)
- 12.20 Regional News (4100443)
- 12.30 News (T) and weather (25240)
- 1.00 Shortland Street (15714) 1.30 Home and Away (T) (24511) 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (1518735)
- 3.15 News (T) (1518735)
- 3.20 Regional News (1513288)
- 3.25 Tots TV (T) (1596511) 3.35 Jamboree (7918917) 3.45 Rocky and the Dodos (799153) 4.00 Dinosaur and Muttley's Flying Machines (T) (5289545) 4.15 Extreme Ghostbusters (T) (9260885) 4.40 Minty (T) (4927608)
- 5.10 WALES: House to House (5610801)
- 5.10 What's My Line? (5610801)
- 5.40 News (T) and weather (73172)
- 6.00 Home and Away (147801)
- 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (335795)
- 6.35 HTV Weather (762289)
- 7.30 The West Tonight (511)
- 7.00 Emmerdale (T) (2191)
- 7.30 WALES: Grass Roots (795)
- 7.30 Take 3 (795)



Stake Fletcher investigates a case of harassment (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill: Unlicensed A woman accuses her former lover of harassment (T) (8511)

8.30 Eye Spy (T) (7046)

9.00 P.D. James' A Certain Justice (1/3) A top criminal barrister is shocked to discover that a client she's acquitted for murder is involved with her daughter (T) (3153)

10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (37676)

10.30 Regional News (531135)

10.40 Billion Dollar Fairies A look at America's movie-inspired theme parks (T) (105795)

11.40 Anatomy of Disaster (185646)

12.40am Comando (T) (3396283)

1.40 Best of British Motor Sport (395115)

2.10 Life in Danger (1959, b/w) Damon Nastib, Julie Hopkins and Howard Marlon Crawford An adolescent girl befriends a drifter who is mistaken for a child murderer. She persuades him to take her away from her parents but they are found by an angry mob. Directed by Terry Bishop (537544)

3.15 Live Life Ted Robbins (T) (19738047) 3.40 Sport Classics (T) (16489047) 4.10 Planet Rock Profiles (9503467) 4.35 NightScreen (4833486) 5.30 News

- As HTV West except:
 - 1.00pm A Country Practice (15714)
 - 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (5491288)
 - 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5610801)
 - 6.25-7.00 Central News (335795)
 - 7.30-8.00 24 Hours (795)
 - 11.40 Renegade (165646)
 - 4.05am Central Jobfinder '98 (5977283)
 - 5.20 Asian Eye (8502009)
- As HTV West except:
- 12.15pm-12.30 Westcountry News (2820998)
- 1.00 Emmerdale (15714)
- 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (5491288)
- 5.08 Birthday People (5491065)
- 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5610801)
- 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (40559)
- 7.30-8.00 Make Yourself at Home (795)
- 11.40 Baywatch Nights (185646)

- 6.00am Sesame Street (T) (40207)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (T) (10269)
- 9.00 Johnny Frenchman (1945, b/w) Drama charting a feud between Breton and Cornish fishermen. Directed by Charles Friend (56408795)
- 10.55 Drift Net Computer animation (1532443)
- 11.00 Baby Baby: potty training (T) (5646)
- 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (6375)
- Sesame Street (87159) 12.30pm Lunch Lunch. With guests Nicola and Mandy Smith (T) (31066) 1.30 Bert and Mandy Revisited (T) (22153)
- 2.00 They Rode West (1954) Drama in which a cavalry doctor is opposed by his camp commander when he attempts to stem a malarial epidemic among an Indian tribe. Directed by Phil Karson (T) (61191)
- 3.30 Watercolour Challenge (T) (917) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One: The Big Winners (T) (T) (424) 4.30 Countdown (T) (3114069)
- 4.55 Ricki Lake: Women who love a friend's brother (T) (5891269) 5.30 Pet Rescuers (T) (288)
- 6.00 Tour de France The riders in the top French race arrive back on home soil for a 169km stage from Roscoff to Lorient (801)
- 6.30 Home Improvement Wilson directs a school drama (T) (153)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (921801)
- 7.50 Deadline 2000 A look at nature as the Millennium approaches (T) (114153)
- 8.00 Absolutely Animals Will new legislation stop the factory farming of puppies? And actress and singer Dannii Minogue visits a Turkish beer sanctuary for rescued dancing bears (T) (6153)
- 8.30 Brookside Ron's ready to take the court's punishment (T) (5268)

- CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
- Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.82075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz
- 6.00am 5 News and Sport (3688559)
- 7.00 WideWorld (T) (1776648) 7.30 Mishakes (506009) 7.55 Wind in the Willows (T) (1155739) 8.00 Howlisco (3878240) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (T) (387511) 9.00 The Hot Zons (T) (3891191) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (T) (8176801) 10.20 Sunset Beach (T) (405375) 11.10 Letza (6479268)
- 12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (3688527) 12.30pm Family Affairs (T) (T) (3418892) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (177917) 1.30 Sons and Daughters (347153) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5470424) 2.30 Open House with Gloria Hunniford. Today's guest is the newswriter and presenter Michael Buick (8330337)
- 3.30 Smoke Signal (1955) with Dana Schwartznerger, Sam Wamankar and Kathryn Hamill. Action-adventure about a frontier drama about a small cowboy unit dispatched to locate an outpost on the Colorado river. Directed by Jerry Hooper (1720530)
- 5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show: Millionaire-a-Minute (5282608)
- 6.00 100 Per Cent Challenge (1801608)
- 6.30 Family Affairs (T) (1825288)
- 7.00 5 News (T) (5472420)
- 7.30 Secret Lives: Desert Mist Documentary looking at the great range of wildlife that survives the heat and drought of Africa's Namib desert (T) (181472)
- 8.00 Hidden Worlds: Red Monkeys of Zanzibar A look at the red colobus monkey, a protected species that has made its home among the human population (5490288)
- 8.30 What Went Wrong? New series featuring expert analysis on modern-day tragedies (5479795)
- 9.00 Raw Deal (1986) with Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sam Wamankar and Kathryn Hamill. Action-adventure about a former FBI agent who goes undercover in the Mob in a bid for revenge. Directed by John Ivan (T) (20727117)
- 10.55 Jack Dee Live at the London Palladium (T) (93427725)
- 12.00am La Femme Nikita (T) (4270689)
- 1.05 Live and Dangerous Australian rules football: motorsport and Asian football (3447488)
- 3.45 Asian Football Show (7431467)
- 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (1287202)
- 5.30 100 Per Cent Challenge (T) (3809912)

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- Michael Wood follows in Alexander's footsteps (9.30pm)
- Alexander the Great Michael Wood takes a journey along the Macedonian king's path (47578) WALES: Disaster
- 10.30 Newsnight (T) (368511)
- 11.15 Ruby (570068) 11.55 Weather (644846)
- 12.00 The Midnight Hour (46848)
- 12.30am Deadly Quarrels (84318) 1.00 The Front Desk (13979) 1.30 In Search of Vector Space (28299) 2.00 The Classics (55318) 4.00 The French Experience (87660) 5.00 Career Moves (4725641) 5.45 The Management of Nuclear Waste (53028)

- 10.00 International Bowls (952578) 10.30 Five (7570269)
- 10.30 Football: 1.00 Soccer Classics (94949)
- 1.00 Equusmania (3026240) 3.00 Sports Unlimited (1522714) 4.00 Major League Baseball (675269) 5.00 Women's Golf: Jamie Farr Krieger Classic (1713601) 6.00 Fastest (876394) 6.30 World Eight-Ball (747698) 10.30 Baseball (826959)
- 12.30am Sports Centre (3244029) 12.45 Sports Unlimited (991572) 1.45 Sports Centre (5718931) 2.00 Close
- SKY SPORTS 3
- 12.00 Wrestling (4528608) 1.00pm Film TV (4527650) 2.00 Soccer Classics (881453) 3.00 Entertainment (4092517) 3.30 Baseball (9157573) 4.00 V-Max (9156485) 4.30 Fastest (876394) 5.00 Live Sunday League (6464) (8262730) (10.30 Fastest (1277869) 11.00 Rugby Union Classics (5814260) 11.30 Close
- EUROSPORT
- 7.30am Superbowl (48202) 8.30 Tour de France (71294) 9.30 IndyCar (56191) 11.00 Tour de France (76795) 12.00pm Live Tour de France (211684) 4.30 Rowing (72153) 5.30 Tour de France (80883) 6.30 Tour de France: Wheels: Drive (7559) 7.00 World Cup (72761) 8.00 Tour de France (80379) 11.00 Superbowl (76240) 12.30am Close
- UK GOLD
- 7.00am Crossroads (8837795) 7.30 Neighbours (T) (1519153) 7.55 EastEnders (3751153) 8.30 The Bill (293240) 9.00 The Bill (293240) 9.30 Sky Lucky (2510714) 10.00 The Bill (293240) 11.00 Dallas (6428449) 11.35 Neighbours (8820004) 12.30am EastEnders (1136522) 1.00 All Stars (8820004) 1.35 The Bill (293240) 2.00 The Bill (293240) 2.35 The Bill (293240) 3.05 The Bill (293240) 3.35 The Bill (293240) 4.00 The Bill (293240) 4.30 The Bill (293240) 5.00 The Bill (293240) 5.30 The Bill (293240) 6.00 The Bill (293240) 6.30 The Bill (293240) 7.00 The Bill (293240) 7.30 The Bill (293240) 8.00 The Bill (293240) 8.30 The Bill (293240) 9.00 The Bill (293240) 9.30 The Bill (293240) 10.00 The Bill (293240) 10.30 The Bill (293240) 11.00 The Bill (293240) 11.30 The Bill (293240) 12.00 The Bill (293240) 12.30 The Bill (293240) 1.00 The Bill (293240) 1.30 The Bill (293240) 2.00 The Bill (293240) 2.30 The Bill (293240) 3.00 The Bill (293240) 3.30 The Bill (293240) 4.00 The Bill (293240) 4.30 The Bill 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GOLF 42

Qualified success as Open hopefuls take their place

SPORT

TUESDAY JULY 14 1998

MOTOR RACING 42

Schumacher's win piles the pressure on rival teams



Reports claim Brazil's sponsors forced coach to reinstate striker against France

Ronaldo suffered fit before final

FROM OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

THE mystery over why Ronaldo, the man who has been acclaimed as the world's best footballer, was allowed to play for Brazil in the World Cup final against France when he was palpably unfit deepened last night...

warm-up. The deeper significance of all this, though, is that concern had been building about Ronaldo's health for some time...

It is almost certain that the combined effects of these injections led to the seizure he suffered on Sunday lunch-time...

"It was a tremendous scare for me," Ronaldo told Brazilian television from the team's base at Lesigny, east of Paris. "We lost the World Cup but I won another cup: my life. I do not remember properly, but I went to sleep and then it seems I had a fit for 30 or 40 seconds. I woke up then and my whole body was in pain."

"But with time, the pain got less and I relaxed a bit. I could have chickened out of the game, but I decided to play and I went out there to try to help the team. I do not want to find any excuses for the defeat because they [France] played well, but the two goals from corners were our mistakes."

The extent of Ronaldo's attack emerged yesterday when the team doctor, Lidio Toledo, said that Ronaldo had swallowed his tongue in the convulsion. Other players said that they had seen him taken from the hotel to hospital on a stretcher...

Initially, it was thought that the rest of the team demanded that he play, so reliant is their morale on the presence of a man who has scored 30 goals in 42 games for the national side...

- Grand finale..... 44
Golden feat..... 44
Jacquet's triumph..... 45

aftermath of the match was dominated by unasked questions from the Brazilian media about why he had been allowed to start the game in such a state.

As the controversy increased yesterday, Ronaldo's plight began to look more and more like the poignant story of a young man, still only 21, caught in the midst of a host of different, powerful, commercial interests.

It seemed obvious to all in the stadium that Brazil were totally unprepared for the match. The decision by Mario Zagallo, the Brazil coach, to reinstate Ronaldo reportedly infuriated Edmundo, his nominated replacement...



Leboeuf and Lizarazu, right, keep a tight grip on the Jules Rimet Trophy as the France team parades football's most coveted prize on an open-top bus on the Champs-Élysées

Glory beckons all the President's men

Frank Leboeuf on the dawning of fame and fortune after the wonderful night for France before

Well, I predicted my life might not be the same after Sunday night and today will be the proof of it when I have lunch with the President of France...

I am just so happy that I made the most of an opportunity that, for most of my professional days, has been far beyond my wildest dreams...

I would like to think I had an excellent game, whatever is said about Brazil's strengths or weaknesses. I certainly believe I have shown the French public, some of whom questioned my abilities at this level, that I am worthy of a World Cup winning team...

Before then I must disappear to a beach with my wife and children and reflect on a momentous summer. I must think what I am going to do with a World Cup winners' medal, the greatest prize in the sport...

Louis van Gaal, the Barcelona coach, said yesterday that he was still confident of signing Frank de Boer, Ajax, to accept an offer reported to have been \$14 million...

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-21.

No 1457

- ACROSS: 1 India port on Hooghly (8), 5 Merry Wives family, boy attendant (4), 7 Deliriously happy (slang) (4,3,4), 8 A palm; an appointment (4), 9 Sundial arm (6), 10 Humiliated (6), 13 Personal; have (5), 14 Birthmark blotch (6), 17 A throwing event (6), 18 Solid rectangular lump (4), 19 Thurber's fantasist (6,5), 20 Problematic, decisive, point (4), 21 Anxiety of waiting (5). SOLUTION TO NO 1456: ACROSS: 1 Pharmacy 5 Daub 8 Gullible 9 Spin 11 Strum 12 Onerous 13 Severe 15 Defend 18 Farrago 19 Boron 21 Trun 22 Penumbra 23 Hoot 24 Joyslick. DOWN: 1 Pegasus 2 Abler 3 Maid Marian 4 Callow 6 Approve 7 Bonus 10 Heresbald 14 Verigo 16 Denmark 17 Bolero 18 Fetch 20 Rabbit

ordered him to include Ronaldo from the start. Zagallo stormed out of a post-match press conference when that point was put to him. "Show some respect," he shouted at the questioner. But earlier, Zagallo had said: "Ronaldo shouldn't have played. The trauma was very great. We gave the line-up without Ronaldo, and that rattled our team psychologically. They were stymied, inhibited because Ronaldo wasn't going to play. I said it was a strategy that Ronaldo would stay on the bench. I was hiding the real situation."

Wilder rumours suggest that Teixeira told the coach to remember who their paymasters were—a clear reference to the influence of Nike, the sportswear company that has a four-year, £250 million deal with Brazil.

That deal, and the power that Nike exercises because of it, has raised concerns that it might be able to influence team selection and choose the venues and the regularity of the team's matches. It would have been a commercial disaster for them if Ronaldo had not started the final.

Nike insisted last night that the rumours about its influence on the decision to play Ronaldo were "completely false and an insult". Ronaldo, meanwhile, is almost certain to face an operation to try to cure his knee problems.

That will anger his club, Internazionale, who paid £20 million to sign him from Barcelona last season. There are already suggestions they will sue the Brazilian federation. And at the centre of it all, a young man's glittering career is starting to unravel.

Yesterday I felt like I met the whole of France when we were taken on our wonderfully emotional bus tour of the Champs-Élysées. I am too young to know any different but the wise old heads told me they had never seen anything like it since the end of the Second World War. More than a million of my compatriots lined the route and it was an unbelievable sea of colour. A truly unforgettable occasion.

The crush was so bad that, for a while, the players actually became very worried. It was a hot day and fans were falling unconscious all around us as they were squeezed so tight. We had to stop long before our proper destination of the Arc de Triomphe because we were moving about three inches every hour and there were policemen being treated on our bus for dehydration as they tried in vain to keep the route clear. I just pray no one was badly hurt because it was a day when every joyous Frenchman should have been celebrating like never before. Personally, winning the World Cup is an achievement

I understand there has been much speculation about Ronaldo since the final but not by us. As far as we are concerned, we were the best team on Sunday night and that is all that matters. We deserved it. In fact, we could have won by several more goals which really would have been one of the incredible World Cup finals. I think you saw a team coming to its peak together and I believe that we were capable of victory whatever the opponents and whatever the form.

Even all the talk before kick-off about whether Ronaldo would play or not did not cause a ripple of disquiet in our dressing-room. Of course, we saw the initial

teamsheet with his name missing but none of us honestly believed it to be true. We had seen him training on television and never doubted he would start. Nor did we find anything unusual in the fact that they did not come out and warm up on the pitch. By that stage we were absolutely focused on our own preparations, secure in our own self-belief and ready for anything Brazil could throw at us.

I hope they already know that at Chelsea where I shall be returning in three weeks with my international teammate Marcel Desailly, I can assure the Stamford Bridge supporters that winning the World Cup has not diluted my ambitions in any way. If anything, it has made me even more determined to keep proving myself and to win more trophies. The FA Carling Premiership and the Champions' League have to be realistic goals. After the events of the last few days, I am prepared to believe that anything is possible in football.

Boardman crashes out of Tour



Boardman: concussion

CHRIS BOARDMAN, of Britain, crashed out of the Tour de France and lay unconscious on the roads of Co Waterford yesterday before being taken to hospital with concussion, a suspected broken wrist and cuts and bruises to his face and body.

Boardman fell at high speed after a touch of wheels among a group of riders close to the front of the race. It was his latest dramatic exit from cycling's most demanding event after his serious crashes in 1995 and 1997.

Fifty-five kilometres from the finish in Cork, Boardman crashed to the road and rolled headfirst into a dry-stone wall, after Johan Bruyneel, of Belgium, and Francesco Casagrande, of Italy, fell in front of him as the field picked

up speed on the approach to a hotly-contested sprint.

"Chris was behind us because we were all working hard for our sprinter Fred Moncassin," Magnus Backstedt, Boardman's Swedish team-mate, said. "I heard the crash, but we didn't know who it was or how serious it was until a few kilometres later."

For several moments, Boardman lay concussed and motionless in the road, while the Tour de France field rode on without him. Finally, with photographers and officials hovering around him, he was placed carefully onto a stretcher and taken to hospital. Dr Stephen Cusack, of Cork University Hospital, con-

firmed that after his concussion, Boardman would be kept under observation.

It is likely that Boardman will now decide to ride in the world 4,000 metres pursuit track championship next month, which he has twice previously won and is the world record-holder at the distance.

Boardman is the only British rider to have beaten the qualifying time of 4min 30sec this year, but he has said that there was only a 50-50 chance that he would contest the world title in Bordeaux—principally because his aim had been to finish the Tour de France, a target that would not have allowed him adequate preparation for the world title.

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Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, containing text like 'Static', 'publi', and 'MORSE'.